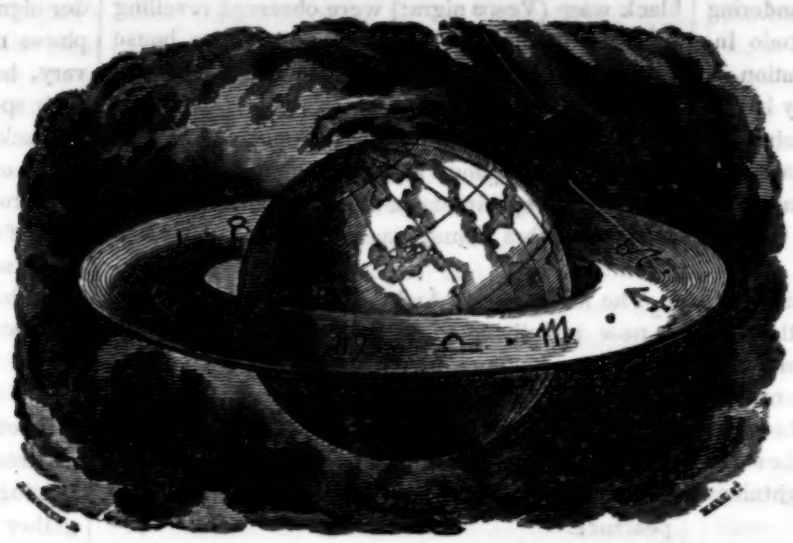
THE ZODIAC.



DEVOTED TO SCIENCE, LITERATURE AND THE ARTS.

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THE FOREST CHILD.

BY R. F. HOUSMAN.

It was a vision pure and wild
As ever blessed a waking eye;
The sweet form of a beauteous child
Beneath a summer sky.

I sat beside the mossy roots
Of an old elm—a hoary tree,
And near my feet a little rill
Went dancing in its glee—

Went dancing on the live long day,
Through flickering scenes of light and shade;
Yet sometimes paused in flowery nooks,
And with the floweret played.

I gazed upon the restless thing
With mingled thoughts of joy and pain,
For that blithe streamlet led my heart
To childhood's sunny plain.

When—hark! the greenwood thickets stir—
The tangled hazel boughs divide—
And lo! a bright-haired, happy child
Is standing at my side!

'Tis wearied with its summer play—
As roses droop with too much dew—
And on its smooth cheek deeply burns
The rose's crimson hue.

Around its brow a coronal
Of fairest leaves and buds entwine;
And in its lap a thousand gems
Lie—fresh from nature's mine.

'Tis wearied out with summer play:
The sparkling wealth aside is flung—
And on the young moss sweetly sleeps,
A child, as bright and young!

But years since then passed away,
And years bring change, and blight, and woe—
And they who *come* the latest here
Are oft the first to *go*.

The phantom of the greenwood glen
Is slumbering in a quiet tomb,
Beneath the ancient yew that fills
The churchyard with its gloom.

The crimson blush of dappled dawn
Wakes all sweet things in bower and brake;
The bird, the flower, the lamb, the fawn—
But SHE may never wake!

Yet often in the summer time
I sit beside the hoary tree,
And love to watch the little rill
Go dancing in its glee.

And when a small bird breaks away
From its dim nook of shrouding leaves,
My startled spirit owns the spell
That subtle fancy waves;—

And then I see, or seem to see,
Between the blossom'd branches wild,
Come stealing in, with silent step,
The solitary child!

The sign of Aries or ♈ is the first of the northern signs, and has no place in nature, say some astronomers, its position being occupied by Pisces.

The succession of the equinoxes has caused a change in the signs, by at least 30°, and the principal star of Arietes, actually rises heliacally as late as June.—Connected with the sign of the Zodiac, is the well-known story of the golden fleece, and argonautic expedition, which our young readers will find in almost all works on ancient history.

"Once more the swelling bud betokens spring."

Sweet are the omens of approaching spring,
When gay the elder sprouts her winged leaves;
When tootling Robins, carol—welcomes sing,
And sparrows cherp glad tidings from the eaves.
What lovely prospects wait each wakening hour,
When each new day some novelty displays;
How sweet the sunbeam melts the crocus flower,
Whose borrowed pride shines dizen'd in his rays;
Sweet new laid hedges flush their tender greens;
Sweet peep the arum leaves their shelter screens;
Ah! sweet is all that I'm denied to share.
Want's painful hindrances stick me to her stall,
But still hope's smiles unpoint the thorns of care,
Since heaven's eternal spring is free from all.

CLARE.

[We publish in this number the Naturalist's Every Day Book for May 1835, at the request of several scientific gentlemen, who wish to compare the events in the natural history of the coming month of May with those of the preceding year.]

(For the Zodiac.)

THE NATURALIST'S EVERY DAY BOOK FOR MAY, 1835.

The long wished for and ardently anticipated month has at length appeared attended by its usual train of all that is exhilarating and beautiful; to enliven and adorn the year, and render the face of nature a delightful subject of contemplation to man, —when our forests put forth their brightest vestures of green, to yield a shelter to the beasts that prowl and the birds that flutter through their hitherto silent glades,—when the flowers unfold their varied beauties to the genial influence of a returning summer sun, and scatter their delicious odours on the balmy winds of the south,—when the feathered songsters of the woods are heard warbling forth their melodies with unwearying earnestness from every hill and vale,—when the insect race, tribe after tribe, forsake their lonely retreats in some secluded recess to decorate and give life to the numerous vegetables which furnish them a sustenence through their varied and surprising stages of existence,—when the silver scaled fish leap in joyous exstacy into the morning's earliest ray, from murmuring brooks and placid streams, and when even the loathed reptiles may now be seen issuing from their darksome cells, enlivened into sportive activity by the genial influence of the milder beams of May. All these together, uniting in one universal exhibition of gratitude at having once more been permitted to witness the return of this cheerful season of the year.

Friday, 1st.—This morning some of our social summer friends, the barn-swallow, (Hirundo rufa Gm.) were seen in considerable numbers, sportively performing their evolutions above the Hudson river, in eager pursuit of the few winged insects that have yet appeared, or gliding gracefully along its surface, drinking and washing their soiled plumage in the placid stream. A few of them had been observed about a week previous, but as they could not succeed in making it summer, they soon again wandered away to a more genial climate in the South.

Vegetation this season has been very slow in developing itself; the following plants have only now for the first time appeared in bloom. Ranunculus, fascicularis, Muhl. Thalictrum aneminoides, (Saxifraga virginiensis, Mich.) early saxifrage, and the delicate Viola blanda of Wild: This delicate little plant, so familiar to every school-boy that sports in the meadow, possesses medical properties in some degree of strength. It is tonic, purgative, and emetic, according to the doses given from ten grains up to fifty. The usual time for flowering is generally about the 12th day of April, being now nearly three weeks behind the more regular seasons.

Saturday, 2d.—Notwithstanding the unfavora-

bleness of the season, some of the tortoises have left their winter retreats, and are seen wandering through the woods, particularly the Testudo insculpta of Le Conte. The natural habitation of this species is in rivers and ponds, but they have a singular disposition to travel on dry land, being frequently found at considerable distances from either, and sometimes, even on hills of no slight eminence. They will live some months in a dry place without suffering any great inconvenience.

Monday, 4*th*.—Vegetation still continues at a stand. The shelves and indentations of the Helderberg and Catskill Mountains yet contain great quantities of snow, which no doubt have considerable influence upon the temperature of the atmosphere. This evening, strong winds from the south-east, with heavy driving scuds and vivid lightnings, succeeded by brisk showers of rain.

Tuesday, 5*th*.—Through the course of this day vegetation has evidently taken a start, which can plainly be discovered from the Lilacs and other trees of our gardens and streets.

The Salamandra erythronota, and S. bisliniata of Green, were seen to-day quite active, in moist and wet shady places in the woods. They are vulgarly called lizards, but the true Lacerta is rarely if ever found north of the Highlands on the Hudson river.

The cheering notes of our social summer warbler, the Purple Martin, (Hirundo purpurea Lin.) was heard through the day, and towards its close, a number were seen performing their gyrations over the chimney tops of our city.

The wind in the evening was dead east with drifting scuds, attended with lightning and rain.—The lightnings observed last evening and also this evening from the eastern point of the heavens are very rare phenomena in this vicinity.

Wednesday, 6*th*.—This morning the swallows were seen flying with great swiftness in a direction towards the S. E., immediately against the course of the wind—an indication that the weather has not yet become settled, and that more chilly days may be expected.

The beautiful white species of Moth (Bombyx, Fab:) generally termed the Miller, was for the first time this season observed attached to fences and walls, in the gardens of our city.

The Ranunculus acris of Linneus, is now in bloom. This plant, so common all over our meadows and fields, is supposed not to be a native, but introduced from some parts of Europe. It has frequently been stated that it is deleterious to the cattle which feed on it; this I have reason to believe is a mistake, as it possesses its acrid properties only when growing, and when dry, it is perfectly mild and harmless. This acrid matter is chiefly confined to the root; and before the Spanish fly became its substitute, it was used to some extent in creating blisters, requiring about the space of half an hour to produce the desired effect: it is stated that the beggars in England were frequently in the habit of applying it to various parts of their bodies to produce disagreeable looking ulcers, in order to excite the compassion of individuals. And it is recommended as an excellent remedy for the removal of corns and warts.

Thursday, 7*th*.—The Gyrinus natator of Latr: was seen to-day actively running over the surface of pools and ditches on the sides of the roads.—These interesting insects live in society, and may frequently be seen in the course of the summer, moving briskly in circles on the surface of still and running waters, sometimes suddenly striking against each other as they move along.

The hive bee (Apis mellifica, Linn:) and the black wasp (Vespa nigra:) were observed revelling together in the rich pollen of some green house plants which had been exposed to the influence of the sun in the open air.

From some of the numerous pools scattered through the swamps in the neighborhood of the city, several specimens of the red salamander, (Salamandra rubra Daud:) were obtained this afternoon.

The leather leaf (Andromeda calyculata, Linn:) is now in full bloom in the swamps on the pine plains.

Friday, 8*th*.—During the last week the small species of Sturgeon (Acipencer, Lin:) was for the first time brought to our market, and within the last day or two the larger ones have also made their appearance.

Two species of the Cicindela, C. vulgaris of Say. and the C. patruela of Dejean, are now quite common in dry sandy, and sunny exposures. These very beautiful insects are the harbingers of spring, and have been most appropriately termed the tigers of the insect race, from the ravenous ferocity with which they prey upon all the weaker insects that fall in their way. They may be seen on every sunny day, running rapidly across your path, or flying in a semicircular course for a short distance, when they alight, and remain until again disturbed, with their heads most generally turned directly towards you. It is the larva of these sprightly insects which form caverns in the hard clayey paths about our city, artfully concealing the orifices by stopping them with their uncouth looking heads, when woe betide the hapless unsuspecting insects that approach too near, for they are sure to become their prey, being immediately seized in their powerful mandibles and speedily devoured by them. They are at present very common in the walks of the Academy park.

Saturday, 9*th*.—The bloodroot (Sanguinaria canadensis, Lin:) is now most profusely in flower on the banks of running streams, beneath the shadow of trees and shrubs. The delicate and beautiful little wood Anemone A. nemorosa, De Cand., has just put forth its blossom for the season, so also has the Viola cuculata Ait: and the Trillium erectum var. atropurpureum of Mich. The shad-bush, Amelanchier botryapium, and A. ovalis, are both also in full bloom.

Several specimens of the yellow water salamander (Triturus. Raff.) were obtained from running streams and ponds; they are by no means uncommon in the neighborhood of our city, and are very imperfectly described. Immediately after our spring freshets they may be found quite common in ditches, on low meadows, and also on the road sides adjoining the Hudson river, left there no doubt by the overflowing of its waters.

Sunday, 10*th*.—I obtained three specimens of the tree-frog, (Hyla versicola. Le Conte,) one from a decayed pine, the second from the branches of the Azalia nudicaulis, and the other from an old fence, all of them varying in their color and markings. These reptiles possess the singular property of changing their colors at will, most commonly in conformity with the objects upon which they are found.

This warm sunny day has brought out the small species of sand snake (Coluber, Lin:) in great numbers, you can scarcely walk out on a dry sandy exposure without disturbing them as they lie basking in the sun beams, or behold them crossing your path as you proceed along.

Monday, 11*th*.—The black salamander (Salamander nigra, Green,) is quite numerous in wet springy places near running streams about the city; they vary, however, from the common description of their species, being as universally yellowish-brown as black. It is a well known fact, that the reptiles of the order *Bratrachia* possess the peculiar faculty of reproducing a limb which has been mutilated.—One of the three specimens obtained to day, had by some accident been deprived of its tail—the new one, though short, was distinctly formed, and in a fair state of progress.

The willow butterfly (Venessa antiopa, Leach.) and a beautiful tortoise-shell butterfly, peculiar to this country, have been changed from their chrysalis state into active existence, by the heat of the returning summer sun, and may be already seen; together with several of the numberless species of moth, hovering through the light woods, displaying their richly, and variously adorned plumage to the eye.

Tuesday, 12*th*.—The following plants have but now, for the first time, been discovered in bloom. The Indian turnip (Arum triphyllum, Linn:) is a well known plant, possessing a powerfully caustic root when fresh from the earth, and exhibits sensibility in a slight degree upon being rudely grasped, the oval-leaved violet, (Viola ovata, Nutt:) Toothwort, (Dentaria diphylla, Mich:) and the delicate little grass Carex varia of Muhlenburgh. The small Elater-abruptus of Say, is now very common under moss and decayed wood; it is vulgarly called Snap-bug, from the circumstance that when placed upon its back, by a sudden inflection of a part of the thorax, it is capable of springing to a considerable height, and this motion is repeated until it effects its proper position.

Wednesday, 13*th*.—The common Spider, has now, for the first time commenced spinning its widely spread geometrical web in our gardens, indicative of dry pleasant weather.

The white dog-tooth violet (Erythroneum albidum, Nutt) was never found to the eastward of the Mississippi river, until a few years ago, when it was discovered in some quantity in the neighborhood of Albany, since which time it has been rapidly increasing, and is now quite common. It thrives best in shady situations along the edges of light woods, and is now in full bloom, together with the yellow species, (E. americanum, Smith.) They are both beautiful plants, and deservedly worthy of cultivation were they not so common; they are a popular remedy administered with milk for scrofula among the western tribes.

Thursday, 14*th*.—The Horse leech (Hirudo sanguisuga, Lin:) is now observed in shallow ditches, in pairs.

The Helix alternata of Say, is very common under decayed wood and bark of trees in the moist shady situations. The Physa heterostropha of Say, is found in great numbers adhering to stones along the banks of the Erie canal.

The beautiful marked Tortoise (Testudo picta, Le Conte) is now seen quite common along the banks of running streams, on logs and rocks basking in the sun's rays; when approached by any person, it plunges instantaneously into the water, and disappears from the sight.

Friday, 15*th*.—Plum and Pear trees are just in flower this morning in the gardens of the city.

The Succinea ovalis of Say, is very numerous under decayed wood and bark of trees in ditches along the banks of the Hudson river.

The following plants are now in bloom, the

Strawberry (Fragaria virginiana, Lin.); wild Black Current (Ribes floridum, Wild); Dutchman's breeches (Diclytra cucularia, de Cand.); this plant when eaten produces cholic, whence one of its vulgar names, cholic-weed; Spring beauty, Claytonia spathulæfolia, Nutt; it is frequently used in cataplasms, to apply to ulcers proceeding from scrofula; and the Houstonia coerulia, Lin.

Towards the close of the day, a violent flurry, attended with snow, passed from the west to the northward of the city.

Saturday, 16th.—A species of Brachinus. Fab, is quite common under stones and decayed wood in moist places. When taken in the hand they discharge a brown caustic liquor, having the odour, and producing the effect of nitric acid on the skin. A species of Nebria of Lat., is also found in like situations.

The Columbine, (Aquilegia canadensis, Lin.,) is just bursting into bloom in rocky situations exposed to the sun. In vinous infusions it has frequently been used for jaundice.

A great number of Shad and Herring are daily taken in the river near the city, the former, this season from some unexplained cause, appear to be deficient in their usual portion of fat.

The few sunny hours of the last week have had a powerful influence on the progress of vegetation. The season is now very little if at all behind that of the preceding year.

Monday, 18.—The trailing arbutus (Epigæa repens, Linn.) is now perfectly out of bloom, whilst the following plants have just appeared. Bearberry, (Arbutus uva-ursi, Linn.) This plant is tonic, diuretic, and an astringent: the leaves yield a black dye, and are not unfrequently smoked by some of our Indian tribes; Gold Thread, (Coptis trifolia, Salisb.;) Thyme-leaved Speedwell, (Veronica serpyllifolia, Linn.;) Early Life Everlasting, (Gnaphalium plantagineum, Linn.;) this is also used by the Indians for the bite of the rattlesnake; and the Equisetum sylvaticum, Linn.

The Humming Bird, (Trochilus colubris, Wils.) has this morning paid us its earliest visit, sipping the sweets our garden yields. The birds which compose this genus, are the smallest, and some of the most gorgeously decorated of all the feathered race; it is composed of several species, varying distinctly in their appearance, and are all of them natives of tropical and Southern America; the present one is the only species hitherto discovered in the northern part of the United States, visiting us only in the season of flowers, and disappearing again at the earliest chills of the approaching autumn.

The Humming Bee (Apis lapidarius, Linn.) has also commenced his wandering flight from flower to flower.

These last two days we have had strong westerly winds, springing up with the rising sun, gradually increasing in violence, and as regularly falling away again and terminating with the closing day.

Tuesday, 19th.—Several species of the Grasshopper, (Locusta of Leach.) have become quite common in the light woods in dry sunny exposures; some of them have their wings most brilliantly colored with red, which makes a beautiful appearance as they fly along. These insects are the true Locusts of authors; those which have erroneously been termed so, belong to the genus Cicada of Linn., two species of which are common in the vicinity of Albany; one of them may be seen every summer, and the other makes its appearance in great numbers about once in every seventeen years; they are strikingly distinguished by the color of their wing-ribs, those of the former being dark, and of the latter of a brick-red color. These last have not been seen here since 1826; consequently they may again be expected in the year 1843.—They vary, however, as to the date of the year in which they appear in different sections of the United States, but still retain the regular period of seventeen years. It would be interesting to have a notice of the particular year and situation in which they appear in the different parts of our country.

The beautiful Blue Jay (Corvis cristatus, Linn.) is now quite common in the pine woods. It is not generally known that this bird possesses great musical powers; its voice is uncommonly rich and melodious, and it is capable of imitating the songs of almost every other bird of the forest. It can easily be instructed by the German flute, and other musical instruments.

Two species of the Slug (Limax, Linn.) have become quite numerous under stones and decaying wood in gardens and moist fields.

Wednesday, 20th.—This morning the weather was remarkably warm; however about noon a fine breeze sprang up from the west which greatly modified the heat. A few miles from the city, in the shade, the thermometer at 12 o'clock stood at 87° Fahrenheit.

The Testudo punctata, of Le Conte, is every where seen in the pools of clear water about the pine plains; they vary somewhat in their markings, particularly in the number and brilliancy of their characteristic spots. The T. picta, of the same author, was also observed in company with its young, the latter being about the size of a cent.

The delicate little Violet (Viola lanceolata, Lin.) and the V. muhlenbergiana, De Cand., are now in flower in the moist places about; and on the pine plains, the beautiful species of flowering Wintergreen (Polygala paucifolia, Wild.) has just opened its petals to the warmth of the sun; so also have the Five-finger (Potentilla canadensis, Linn.) black Whortleberry (Vaccinium resinosum, Ait.) and the Scrub Oak (Quercus banisteri, Mich.)

Thursday, 21st.—The Helix tridentata of Say, was taken to-day in considerable numbers, from under the loose moist bark of decaying trees. This beautiful little shell can easily be recognized by the great resemblance which the lip bears to the ornament placed upon pannels in Gothic architecture.

The Lilacs (Syringa vulgaris, Linn.) are now beautifully in bloom in our gardens.

The following native plants were observed in bloom: Trillium grandiflorum, Salisb.; T. erythrocarpum, Mich.; T. cerneum, Linn.; Uvularia sessilifolia, Linn.; and U. perfoliata, Linn; this last when chewed, the saliva is said to be used with beneficial effects in diseases of the throat and mouth; Sambucus pubens, Mich.; this plant is said to be baneful to the feathered race, and also poisons insects and mice. The bark yields a black die, and is ofttimes used to give a fine flavor to vinegar and wine; Leontice thalictroides, Linn.; Geranium maculatum, Linn,; this is quite a beautiful plant, and deserves to be cutivated in gardens, by which process, it sensibly improves; it is not unfrequently used in bowel complaints, and by the Indian it is highly esteemed for a variety of diseases; Cerassus pennsylvanica, De Cand.; C. virginiana, Mich.; and the Wild Ginger, Asarum canadense, Linn.; this plant is a most excellent substitute for ginger in every respect, and it has been used with fine effect in a variety of spasmodic diseases.

Friday, 22d.—The Erie canal at this place abounds with two species of fresh water Muscle, the Unio careosus, and the U. purpureus, of authors. They are of greater size and much more perfect than those which inhabit the Hudson river. They also appear from their annual markings, to attain this size in the space of three or four years.—The Cyclas similas is also very common in the same place.

The Dermestes lardarius, Fab., the larvæ of which, are so destructive to collections of Natural History, Books, &c., are now extremely common in the crevices of the walls and dwelling houses.—An open window will, in a short time, exhibit them, wandering about in search of some proper object, upon which to deposit their eggs, and particularly so, should there be a slight smell of putrifying animal matter. Comparative anatomists sometimes claim their assistance when they wish to obtain the skeleton of the smaller animals; they will devour the flesh of a mouse in a few hours, leaving the bones, and cartilages which unite them, entire, and almost perfectly cleaned.

Two species of the snail was found, quite common in most shady ravines—the Helix albolabris and the H. thyroides of Say. A variety of the former is much larger, and contains an oblique tooth on its pillar lip.

Saturday, 23d.—On the surface of a much decayed tree, I observed to-day, an immense number of membranous wings, and soon after discovered a habitation of a small species of black ant (Formica Linn.,) and some of them yet running about with a single wing attached to them. These wings had belonged to the males and females of this tribe, which, having accomplished the grand purposes of their existence, had just shed them; the neuters, or workies as they were termed, were industriously employed in carrying in food, and preparing the cells for the accommodation of their future progeny.

The rudiments of the locomotive organs of the larvæ of Frogs, commonly called tadpoles, are beginning to develope themselves. Whilst examining them in a ditch, a passer-by observed that he had often heard they turned into frogs, but never had been able to discover the tails which they must have shed! As the legs expand, these now useless appendages become gradually obscured by the great extension of the powerful muscles and teguments of the hinder legs.

The warm sun, and bland airs from the South, have at length brought all the feathered songsters that visit us only during our season of summer, and towards the close of the day, they may easily be distinguished by their peculiar notes, as they make the woods resound with their joyous melody.

Monday, 25th.—Vegetation has progressed in a surprising manner during the preceding week, the cherry and apple trees are now most profusely in bloom, so has also been the pear. They appear not to have sustained any injury from the remarkable degree of coldness of the past winter. The peach trees are almost entirely destroyed, few indeed have been able to weather its severity.

Having kept, for several days, a number of living specimens of the large white-lipped snail (Helix albolabris, Say.) in my room, I have been highly gratified by observing the operations of their unerring instinct. Having closed one of them into a pill-box, whereupon finding it impossible for him to escape, it immediately withdrew into its habitation and closed the orifice most effectually by successive layers of a slimy substance which exuded from the surface of its broad foot, and which rapidly became partially indurated. As long as the box was closed it

remained perfectly passive, as if in a state of hybernation; but upon removing the cover, it in a short time broke through the closing, and again commenced crawling about. This was repeated several times with the like results, and I make no doubt that it would have remained in a torpid state for a great length of time, had the box remained unopened. This slimy substance effervesced in nitric acid, indicating the presence of carbonate of lime. With others I amused myself by sawing out, with a penknife, square pieces of the shell, varying at each time their situation, and in a brief space of time, the parts removed were replaced by the same viscid substance, which became indurated like the remainder of the shell, and it had the appearance of being as neatly executed as e'er a tailor patched a garment. Many interesting anedotes might be stated respecting the instinct of the lower classes of animals. A celebrated entomologist once placed a common snail within a hive of bees, in order to observe the effect. The little inhabitants immediately commenced their attack upon the intruder, but in consequence of its withdrawing itself into the shell, and the orifice being beneath, it remained perfectly secure from their formidable weapons.—They then made several attempts to dislodge it, all of which proved equally unavailing, in consequence of its great weight. On discovering this, they instantly began industriously to deposit some quantity of wax about its base, and at length cemented it firmly to the floor of the hive, and where it long after remained as a monument of intrusion.

Tuesday, 26th.—Cichla fasciata Le Sueur. This fish is generally termed the black bass, and is peculiar to Lake Erie; it was never found in our waters until the completion of the Erie canal, since which time it is not unfrequently taken along our wharves, and also in the canal, together with several others which have heretofore been exclusively confined to that lake.

The Unio nasutus, of Say., is occasionally found in the Hudson river; they are by no means common. One obtained to-day is much larger than I have hitherto seen, measuring four inches in breadth. The Planorbis trivolvis and P. bicarinatus, of Say., are very common in the river, and in the ditches about: specimens of the former from these last situations, are much larger than those confined to the river.

The following plants were to-day observed in flower. Zizia aurea, and Z. cordata, Koch, Viola pubescens, Ait. V. canadensis, and V. pedata, of Linn., Cerassus borealis, Mich. C. obovata, Beck, Valeriænella radiata, De Cand.

Wednesday, 27th.—This morning a thin mist partially obscured the sun, and around which was exhibited a well defined halo, indicative of moisture in the atmosphere, and consequently rain.

The testudo clausa, Le Conte, is not unfrequently met with in warm sandy exposures; it is this species upon which individuals are in the habit of inscribing their names, and Le Conte remarks, that it has been cited as an example of longevity among animals of the lower classes All tortoises are long-lived, the date engraved on its sternum proves nothing, the idle and the foolish are fond of inscribing their names every where, and may as well antedate the time by half a century, as state the true year of their attempt at immortality.

The very beautiful and very fragrant Pinxter blomache, (Rhododendron nudiflorum, Torr.) has just appeared in bloom, so has the Actaea rubra of Willd.

Thursday, 28th.—The following are among the most popular prognostics indicative of rainy weather, a number of which were observed this morning; rheumatic old persons complain of aches, cats wash their faces, dogs grow drowsy, hogs run with straws in their mouths, leeches in jars become uneasy, flies bite and frogs are noisy, spiders forsake their webs, and are seen crawling on walls and fences, cirrous clouds, commonly called mares-tails, in the sky, insects draw nearer the earth as moisture accumulates in the atmosphere, consequently swallows skim the surface of the earth in order to obtain them.

The first thunder this month occurred to day during a shower.

A fine specimen of the Salamandra tigrina, Green, was brought me to-day, having been taken within a few miles of the city, this is the second specimen yet found as far north as this: it measured seven inches in length, the first was caught in our streets, having been brought to the city in a hollow piece of wood down the Erie canal.

Friday, 29th.—The Baltimore Oriole (Icterus Baltimora, Daud.) are now not unfrequently met with in the trees of our gardens, where they construct their singularly formed hanging nests, which circumstance has obtained for them the appellation of hang-birds. They are easily to be detected by their beautiful orange color, and also by their plaintive notes.

The accuracy of Shakspeare's remarks that "the poor beetle which we tread upon," &c., "feels a pang as great as when a giant dies," is very much questioned by naturalists of the present day. A specimen of the beautiful green cicindela after being impaled, made its escape this morning, and when discovered, was found quietly engaged masticating the parts of a dead fly, with the pin still remaining through it. The abdomen of a bee will live and is capable of stinging long after it has been separated from the body. The common fly will run about without its head; and the head of a dragon fly will eat as voraciously after being severed from the trunk as if it had a capacious stomach to replenish. In the Geological Journal, published in Philadelphia, is an anecdote related of a common wasp having become entangled in the meshes of a spider's web, and which the spider, with admirable caution in vain endeavored to seize; the wasp at the same time repeatedly endeavoring to puncture his enemy with his powerful sting: in doing which he at length drove the instrument into his own head, and after considerable tugging in order to extricate it, the head finally separated from the trunk, and the wasp was seen to fly away with his head adhering to the sting.

A faint appearance of aurora borealis was visible this evening, the greatest mass of light was rather west of north.

Saturday, 30th.—A fine specimen of the Marsh Hawk (Falco cyaneus, Linn.) was shot to-day in one of our wet meadows adjoining the river; this bird is not frequently met with in our region, and is easily distinguished by having its face surrounded by a collar like an owl. In its throat was discovered the anterior portion of one of our river chubs (Catostonus oblongus, Le Sueur,) upon which it had been feeding. It appeared to be a young bird of the male kind.

The following is a list of plants now observed in bloom. False sanicle, (Mitella diphylla, Linn.) Mitre-wort, (Tiarella cordifolia Linn.); Bladder nut (Staphylea trifolia, Linn.); the Thorns (Cratægus crus-galli, Ait. C. punctata, Jacq.) and the Buttercup (Ranunculus sceleratus, Linn., R. lacustrus, Tracy, &c., R. repens, Linn., R. intermedius and R. bulbosus, Linn:) Cryptonænie candadensis, De Cand., Cardamine rhomboidea, De Cond., Dentaria laciniata, Muhl., Arabis lyrata, Linn., Arenaria stricta. Mich., A. serpyllifolia, Linn., Pedicularis canadensis, Linn., Carpinis arenaria, Wild.

Sunday, 31st.—The snow ball (Viburnum opulus, Linn.) has commenced flowering in a most beautiful manner in our gardens, to-day.

The caterpillar of a species of moth is at present committing great ravages in the rose trees of our gardens. They roll up the leaves in a cylindrical form longitudinally, in which they remain during the hours of the day, and in the evening prey most voraciously upon the unopened buds, eating entirely through their folded petals. It is very active, and of a dirty greenish hue, with its head and anterior feet black. None of them have as yet been converted into the perfect state, consequently I am unable to determine the particular species, but have little doubt that it will prove the same as the rose leaf roller (Lozotœnia rosana, Stevens) of Great Britain.

(For the Zodiac.)

SONG.

The cold twinkling stars in the sky are assembling,
The limb-wearied cottager homeward is wending,
Here and there a lone leaf on its dark bough is trembling,
And the thought of to-morrow, my sad heart is rending.

Far over yon dark lake, the night breeze is sweeping
Slowly the boat rocks as homeward returning;
Waves round the fisher's hut rudely are leaping;
Tears, bitter tears on my hot cheeks are burning.

There stands the old oak—its green leaves have departed,
They fled with the summer—tho' gone not forever,
The spring will return them—but I merry hearted,
Beneath their cool shades, will again recline never.

Fare thee well, father—and weep, dearest mother,
Weep, for those tears of thy grief will relieve thee—
Fare thee well, sister—fare thee well brother,
We'll meet again, *but in heaven*, believe me!

A. T. L.

A SERIES OF LECTURES ON AMERICAN LITERATURE.

DELIVERED BY REQUEST BEFORE THE YOUNG MEN'S ASSOCIATION, IN THE CITY OF ALBANY, BY S. DE WITT BLOODGOOD.

LECTURE IV.—*Continued.*

The death of another New-England worthy occurred in this year—the Rev. Thos. Prince. He was thoroughly acquainted with the dead languages, had travelled in Europe, and was familiar with natural history. He wrote an account of the aurora borealis, revised the New-England Psalm Book, and for fifty years industriously collected papers relative to the public and secret history of New-England, adding to these,—very valuable original MSS. of his own. He published in 1736 and 1755 some portions of a chronological history of New-England, in which it was his design to give in the form of annals, the principal events between 1602 and 1730.

It is an amusing fact, that the beginning of the work was so elaborate, that it never came to any conclusion. The author prepared an introductory epitome, commencing at the creation of the world, and the continuing it down, occupied his time, and took up all the space that belonged to his main subject.

His MSS. were destroyed by the British troops while they had possession of Boston. Some of his *sermons* were republished in Scotland.

He had a brother, Nathan Prince, a graduate of

Harvard, who was probably a still more eminent scholar than himself. In consequence of a difficulty at this college, where as a tutor and a fellow he had been equally assiduous, but from which he was subsequently removed, he published an account of that institution, and charged its faculty with placing the names of the students on the catalogue, not according to their merit, nor alphabetically as is now the universal practice, but according to the standing and importance of their connexions. This is certainly a very singular fact, and one at variance with the received principles that have generally prevailed, and ever should prevail in the republic of letters. There merit alone has the claim of precedence, and the distinctions it confers are open to all who seek and merit them. The alphabetical arrangement was not adopted until 1773, and now has no reference to any thing else than the mere purpose of ascertaining the names and residence of students.

Mr. Prince was a great mathematician and logician, and his reputation is firmly established.

Cotemporary for a time with these eminent divines, lived John Adams, a New-England poet, and a settled minister at Newport. In a volume of his poetry, published in 1740, after his death, the editor rather boldly predicted that as long as learning and politeness should prevail, "his sermons would be his monument, and his poetry his epitaph!" He spoke nine languages, and was familiar with the ancient and modern classics. His versification, considering the taste and habits of the times, was remarkably harmonious. He published a poem on the love of money, paraphrases of Scripture, translations of Horace, and his chef d'œuvre, an elegy on Cotton Mather. Its character may be inferred from these lines:

"What numerous volumes, scatter'd from his hand,
Lightened his own and warm'd each foreign land.
What pious breathings of a glowing soul
Live in each page and animate the whole?
The breath of heaven, the savory pages show
As we, Arabia from its spices know.
Ambitious, active, towering was his soul,
But flaming piety inspired the whole."

As a specimen of his translations from Horace, we have selected a few lines from that Ode so much patronised by incipient poets, and to which, as a standard measure, they invariably betake themselves, at one time or other, to ascertain their power of versification and their poetical stature:

"Mæcenas! whose ennobled veins,
The blood of ancient monarchs stains,
My safe-guard, beauty and delight!
Some love the chariot's rapid flight,
To whirl along the dusty ground,
Till with Olympic honors crown'd!
And if their fiery courses tend
Beyond the goal, they shall ascend,
In merit equal to the gods,
Who people the sublime abodes."

This is rather a dubious attempt, and certainly falls far short of the original.

It is a curious circumstance, that the English poets of this era, if ever so pious, or rigid, serious or devout, never hesitated to refer to the stores of heathen learning, or avail themselves of the imagery of the Heathen Mythology.

The reformation and the art of printing opened the concealed treasures of antiquity, and every poet attempted to ride the classical steed, Pegasus; every scholar ran eagerly to quench his thirst at the Pierian spring.

From this translation by Mr. Adams, we turn to an imitation of Horace by Mrs. Turell, the daughter of the Rev. Dr. Colman, of whom we have already spoken. Very early in life she discovered a taste for books, which her father encouraged. And at the age of eleven years, she "lisp'd in numbers,—for the numbers came." The following is an extract from a small volume of her poetry, published after her death, which occurred when she was but twenty-seven years of age.

It is taken from an invitation to the country, addressed by her as Delia, to her own father:

"Though my small income never can afford,
Like wealthy Celsus to regale a lord,
No ivory tables groan beneath the weight,
Of sumptuous dishes served in massy plate.
The forest ne'er was searched for food for me,
Nor from my hounds the timorous hare does flee.
No leaden thunder strikes the fowl in air,
Nor from my shaft the winged death doth fear;
With silken nets I ne'er the lakes despoil,
Nor with my bait the larger fish beguile.
No luscious sweetmeats by my servants plac'd,
In curious order o'er my table graced,
To please the taste; no rich Burgundian wine
In chrystal glasses on my sideboard shine.
No wine but what does from my apples flow,
My frugal house on any can bestow.

But though rich dainties never spread my board,
Nor my cool vaults Calabrian wines afford,
Yet what is neat and wholesome I can spread,
My good fat bacon and my homely bread,
With which my healthful family is fed.
Milk from the cow and butter newly churn'd,
And new fresh cheese with curds and cream just
turn'd."

This poetry is certainly as rustic, as the subject of which it treats. But lest it might be considered not quite the best specimen of her style, we add a few lines concluding her paraphrase of the 134th psalm, a favorite with all poets, though not equally well managed by all:

"Thou Babel's daughter! author of our wo!
Shalt feel the stroke of some revenging blow.
Thy walls and towers be levell'd with the ground,
Sorrow and grief shall in each soul be found.
Thrice blest the man, who, that auspicious night,
Shall seize thy trembling infants in thy sight,
Regardless of thy flowing tears, and moans,
And dash the tender babes against the stones."

Another poet of these times, of the name of Maylem, was somewhat popular, although he has all the faults without much of the inspiration of poetry. He is an apt illustration of that school which considered it no fault to mingle sacred and profane imagery almost in the same line.

The conquest of Louisburgh inspired his muse, and it took its flight something in the following manner:

"Not to Aonian spring, Parnassian mount,
Fam'd Helicon or Aganippe's fount,
For fancied fire I aim the wonted flight,
Nor yet explore Olympus' craggy height,
Where fabled gods in fam'd assembly meet,
Self-pois'd the globe an atom at their feet,
But to th' empyreal throne for solid rhyme,
Address the universal cause sublime."

This jumble of the sacred and profane is a further proof of the bad taste then so prevalent.

After invoking to his aid as he styles it "a heavenly gleam," he falls into the *narrative*, and truly, the verse is almost as desperate as the attack it describes:

"And now the drums beat up, and now *appears*
With hearts elate, twelve thousand volunteers!
Six deep the front—a martial grace disclose
That dared the thunder of their Gallic foes.
But lo! while ready for the charge they stood,
Death, blunderbuss! artillery and blood,
Blue smoke and purple flame around appear,
And the hot bullets hail—from front to rear!"

In the year 1759, according to one author, but in 1755, according to Isaiah Thomas, a further restriction was placed upon the periodical press of Massachusetts, by an act which made it necessary for each newspaper to be stamped—at the cost of a half-penny each sheet. The object was to defray the expenses of the government. The stamp was a circle of red ink, enclosing a bird on the wing. A Boston editor amused himself by ridiculing the design, in a rhyme of the following character:

"Although this emblem has but little in't,
You must e'en take it, or you 'll have no print."

For many years *preceding* the revolution, the talent and the literary taste of the country were highly distinguished. A large number of wise and studious men appeared upon the stage, many of them becoming eminent in the scenes which preceded, that catastrophe to England, the loss of her favorite colonies.

There is much difficulty in grouping them together as they were grouped, and preserving at the same time the distinctive character of the individuals.

Many of these eminent men had an ante, and a post revolutionary fame, quite different from each other. Most of them seemed to study, as it were, literature and politics together, to court the muses, and "follow the wars." Singing the songs of freedom, they rushed sword in hand upon the enemy. After appealing to their countrymen in the most eloquent and classical language, through the medium of the press or in the halls of debate, they stepped from the rostrum to mount their chargers and hasten to the field.

Franklin still occupied a foremost rank. In 1764, when he went abroad, he remained there nearly ten years. A curious fact is preserved in relation to this visit, that Adam Smith was in the habit of consulting Dr. Franklin almost daily, while composing his Wealth of Nations.

It is generally supposed that Mr. Smith lived for ten years in strict retirement at Kircaldy, in Scotland, while he had this celebrated work in preparation. But on the authority of Franklin himself, vouched for by Mr. Logan, there can be no doubt of the fact, that the work in question *was* subjected to his revision elsewhere.

One of the most esteemed of Dr. Franklin's literary friends was the celebrated Lt. Governor Colden, of N. Y., and his name occupies a distinguished place in our literary annals. In medicine he was skilful, in botany learned, in astronomy scientific. He was also an historian.

This gentleman was a native of Scotland, and was there liberally educated. At the age of twenty he came to Pennsylvania, and for some years practised as a physician with much success.

He visited England in 1715, then agitated by the schemes of the exiled Stewarts, and while there, attracted the attention of the famous Dr. Halley, in consequence of an essay on animal secretions, written by him at an early age. Indeed, it possessed so much merit as to attract the particular attention of the Royal Society. In 1718 he settled in New-York under the patronage of Governor Hunter, who made him surveyor-general of the colony, an office in that province before unknown. He afterwards become a colonial counsellor.

In 1755, he withdrew to a wild and sequestered spot on the North River, about nine miles from Newburgh, which had been patented to him by the government.

He gave it the name of *Coldenham*, and there exposed to constant assaults from the savages, and often in much personal danger, he devoted himself to literature and study. In 1761, he became Lieutenant-Governor, and on many occasions displayed great firmness of character, but in doing so, he lost the popular favor. Although he had abandoned the

medical profession, he still continued to cultivate those sciences connected with it, and without a knowledge of which no medical man can be truly eminent.

He was a close observer of the climate, and the atmospheric phenomena of the country. He wrote an account of its prevalent diseases, a theory of the causes of yellow fever and its continuance. This last led to the draining and cleansing of the city.

He was a botanist of the first reputation, and a great admirer of the system of Linneus, whose friend and correspondent he was. He described no less than three or four hundred American plants, and the description was published in the Acta Upsaliæ.

His chief work was the History of the Five Indian Nations, and in this he displayed much research and judgment.

It originally contained but thirteen chapters, treating of the wars of the Five Nations, their negociations with the French, with the colonies of New-York and New-England, their various expeditions, and their condition down to the time of the peace of Ryswick.

The private history of this work is quite curious. The copy sent to England for publication, contained a dedication to Gov. Burnet. The publisher took the liberty to alter the dedication, and address it to Gen. Oglethorpe, adding a second volume containing the treaties of the Indians. The absurdity and impropriety of this procedure were resented by Gov. Colden, as *might* have been naturally expected.

The great pursuit in which he was engaged above all others, is that by which he is least known, and is now almost forgotten. In 1751 he published the outlines of a theory, in a book called the Principles of Action in Matter and a treatise on fluxions. This employed all his remaining leisure, and he prepared a second edition, greatly improved and extended, which he sent to Edinburgh for publication, under the care of an eminent physician of the name of Whittle, believing that he himself would never live to see it published. What became of the MS. has never been ascertained. The only editions of the first work printed, were an octavo volume in New-York in 1745, and a quarto in London in 1752. Gov. Colden died in the belief, that his opinions would be universally received in aftertimes.

He left behind him many other MSS., which are believed to have been seriously injured, though still preserved. It would be an act of gross injustice to pass over unnoticed the claims of his daughter, Miss Jane Colden, her father's able assistant in his literary labors. She aided him in his voluminous correspondence with the literati of Europe and America. She herself was a skilful botanist, and she had the good fortune to discover and describe a plant of the 4th class and 3d order, which received from Linneus, as a compliment to the fair naturalist, the name of Coldenea, by which it is still known.

In a collection of MS., which belonged to the late Governor Clinton, several autograph letters of Mr. Colden and his daughter are preserved, which shew conclusively that she possessed great powers of mind with discretion and judgment that made them very attractive.

(To be continued.)

MADRIGAL.—*(Selected.)*

The mountain winds are winnowing
The prim-rose banks along
From bush to brake the wild birds sing,
The runnel-brook, sweet murmuring,
Through flowery meadows flush with spring,
Dances to his own song.

The sun darts through the forest gloom,
And gilds the mossy stems,
The gray rocks buried in the broom,
Peep from their yellow-waving tomb,
And hawthorn bud and heathy bloom,
Scatter the ground with gems.

See! in the sharp wind, blossom bare,
The glistening holly glows!
The wild rose stands with virgin air
Blushing at her own beauty rare;
And lily, still more fearful fair,
Scarce her white bosom shows!

Hark! in each honey-bed you pass,
The burning hum of bees!
The ant-hill swarms a rustling mass!
While in the brittle, singed grass,
Dan Sol doth break the cricket's glass,
And drinks the dewy lees!

To sorrel beds the conies stray,
The goats to upland sheen,
With massy horns the wild deer play,
Twisting their heads in quiet fray,
The white lambs browse and bounce away,
The ox lies on the green.

O, ranger of the sunny hills,
How blissful it must be,
Amid the steepy rocks and rills,
Where Joy his horn of amber fills,
Fresh as from heaven the dew distills—
To live awhile with thee!

G. D.

We commence at this time the republication of the celebrated Lectures of Dr. Grant, and in doing so will venture to assert, that they have not before been published or extensively known in this country. The curious and scientific readers of the Zodiac will thus cheaply obtain the copy of a work entirely too expensive to have been as yet offered to the American public, and one which places the author in the first rank of philosophers.

LECTURES ON COMPARATIVE ANATOMY AND ANIMAL PHYSIOLOGY,

BY ROBERT E. GRANT, M. D., F. R. S. E., &c;

Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh; and Professor of Comparative Anatomy and Animal Physiology in the University of London.

LECTURE I.

ON THE HISTORY AND PRESENT STATE OF THE SCIENCE.

Comparative anatomy is that branch of physical science which treats of the structure of animals. It describes the forms of the several organs, their intimate composition, their internal mechanism, and their various connexions with each other in every class of animals. It traces the gradual development of the organs in the embryo, from their primitive through all their succeeding forms, and shows the relations which exist between these transient forms and the new conditions in which the animal is placed in each of the phases of its existence. It teaches us the uses of the several parts of animals, the functions they perform in their economy, the laws which regulate the co-existence of organs in the same machine, and those which determine the forms of individual organs in each class. It points out the relation which exists between the mechanism and the movements of animals, their structure and functions, and thus leads us to penetrate the mystery of their vital phenomena, their diversified living habits, and the remarkable instincts of particular species. It discovers to us unexpected analogies in the forms and structure of parts in animals remote from each other in the scale, and by extending those analogies it leads us to perceive a resemblance of structure in very different classes of animals, and a uniformity of system—a unity of plan—in the organization of the whole animal kingdom.

Comparative anatomy is a science of analysis and synthesis, and shows us the composition and the primitive or essential elements of all the organs of the body, by watching the order in which their parts are called successively into being, either in the embryo of the same animal, or in ascending through the great body of the animal kingdom. Presupposing a knowledge of the structure of the human body, it compares the organs of the inferior animals with those of man, and shows us that the transient forms of his organs are only repetitions of the permanent forms of the same parts in inferior classes,—that the same laws regulate the forms in both, and that although he possesses, upon the whole, the most complex and elaborate organization met with in nature, he is inferior to many of the lower animals in the degree of development of particular organs. It is only by this kind of comparison that we can acquire an accurate conception of the true character of human organization. And by more extended comparisons we determine the rank which the inferior tribes of animals occupy in the scale of beings. By determining the general laws which regulate the natural development of parts, we arrive at the theory of irregular developments, or monstrosities, in the animal kingdom, and find that those apparently anomalous formations are the result of laws as simple and uniform as those which regulate the healthy or normal structure. By taking an extensive survey of the organization of existing animals, we discover this remarkable truth, that the development of every organ of the human body can be traced through all its successive stages in the great body of the animal kingdom, and the form which an organ presents in each of the lower classes corresponds with its condition at some period of the human embryo. But the researches of the comparative anatomist are not confined to the existing races of animals. In the remains of animals entombed in the ancient strata of the earth, he is enabled to trace phases of organic development on the surface of our planet, which have long preceded the existing forms, and have even been extinct anterior to the existence of our race, and of all the vertebrate tribes.

Comparative anatomy was so named by Vicq-d'Azyr, on account of the numerous comparisons which it institutes between the structures of different animals, and from its having been at first cultivated chiefly with the view of illustrating human structure, by comparing the organs of the inferior animals with those of the human body. It is also frequently called zootomy, from ζωον "an animal," and τεμνειν "to cut," a term which implies that the dissection of animals is the source from which the facts of the science are derived.

Like other sciences founded on direct observation, comparative anatomy consisted in its infancy of a few simple and unconnected facts, which, in its advancement, became gradually multiplied, extended, and generalized, and were ultimately reduced to a regular body of science. Although few branches of physical inquiry have advanced with more reluctant steps than that which investigates the internal mechanism of animals, and the laws which regulate their complicated vital phenomena, the origin of none can probably be traced back to a remoter antiquity.

Man, the most complicated in internal structure, and the most perfectly organized of material beings, was created after all the other animals of this earth. Surrounded with the means of supplying his natural wants, and impelled by his instincts and passions, he must have early commenced hostilities with the brute creation, to procure the means of his subsistence, to obtain their fleecy skins to shelter his nakedness from the inclemencies of the seasons, or to protect his life and property from their rapacious attacks. His natural repugnance to scenes of blood would thus be overcome by the habitual sight of the mangled carcases daily obtained from the chase, before he began to tame or domesticate useful animals, or to preserve flocks for his support.

Notwithstanding the diversity of external form and character presented by his daily victims, he could not fail to observe a remarkable sameness in their internal structure, and even to be struck with the resemblance of their internal organs to the corresponding parts which the numerous accidents of a savage life had often exposed to him in the human body. This was the more likely to arrest his attention with regard to the great viscera of the trunk, as the opening and dividing of animals, whether to prepare them as food, or to offer them as

sacrifices, was often attended with superstitious ceremonies, and was confided only to those who had an influence over the minds of their fellow men, and whose duties as augurs required them to observe and to study the appearances of these parts.

The oldest historical records abound with details of the sacrifices of animals offered to the deities by the priests of the Israelites, the Egytians, and the Greeks; and in most of the civilized nations of antiquity, mysterious signs and auguries were taken from the inspection of the viscera of slaughtered animals. Moses describes the mode of conducting these sacrifices among the Israelites more than thirty centuries ago, when young bullocks, rams, sheep, calves, kids, lambs, goats, young pigeons, and turtle doves, were offered to the Deity as atonement for the sins of his people. Homer makes constant allusion to the sacrifices of domestic animals and auguries taken from the appearance of the internal organs, by the Grecian priests at the Trojan war, eleven hundred years before Christ. The priests of Egypt at as remote a period, enjoyed extensive opportunities of examining the internal parts of quadrupeds, birds, and reptiles, worshipped as deities in that country, and preserved after death, embalmed in the pyramids. Many of the carcases of these animals are still brought to Europe from these ancient monuments, in a state of high preservation. Geoffroy Saint-Hilaire, when with the French army, brought from the tombs of Upper and Lower Egypt, mummies of cats, dogs, monkeys, the head of a bull, birds of prey, ibises, and crocodiles. Interesting descriptions of the sacrifices of animals among the Egyptians, and of the whole process of embalming, are given in the writings of Herodotus, the most ancient of profane historians, and in those of Diodorus Siculus.

Although Moses, in his laws to the Israelites, and Homer throughout his poems, have shown that they possessed an intimate acquaintance with the internal parts, and the living economy of many of the lower animals, the zootomical knowledge collected by the priests during their rites and ceremonies, conisited only of observations on the natural and morbid appearances of the larger viscera, particularly of the heart and liver, from which their signs and omens of future events were chiefly taken, and these accumulated observations, which formed a considerable portion of their art of divination, were not applied by them to the advancement of any rational pursuit.

That singular and acute philosopher, Democritus, about 400 years before Christ, during his retirement in the unhealthy forests of Abdera, devoted himself to the examination of the internal structure of the lower animals, with a scientific object in view. His contemporary, Hippocrates, who visited him in his solitude, found him dissecting under a tree, surrounded with the carcases of the quadrupeds he had already examined, and the father of physic is said to have profited by the anatomical observations of this philosopher. In his letter to Hippocrates on the nature of madness, this acute observer first maintained the brain to be the true seat of the operations of the mind. Hippocrates, who afterwards directed much of his leisure to the study of anatomy, considered this organ as an inert refrigeratory of water and earth, destined to condense the vapors which rose from the lower cavities of the body.

Pythagoras, Alcmeon, and Empedocles, are also said to have directed their attention to the structure of animals.

The cultivation of this study is attended with circumstances very different from those of the abstract sciences, and which have mainly contributed to retard its progress. It depends for its advancement much less on the efforts of genius, or learning, or profound meditation, than the constant employment of the eyes and the scalpel, and the abundant supply of animals from all parts of the globe, which are often inconsistent with the private means of scientific men. Without the powerful and well-directed patronage of Alexander the Great, the varied and extensive learning, and the comprehensive genius of Aristotle, would have little availed him in accumulating that great body of zootomical knowledge which he has left to the admiration of succeeding ages. Thousands of men were employed throughout Greece and Asia to collect all kinds of animals for Aristotle, and eighty talents of gold were placed at his disposal for the advancement of this branch of science. The zoological treasures thus collected from all parts of the world were carefully examined, dissected, and described; and though the physiological views of Aristotle occasionally partake of the errors of those times, he everywhere displays a minute and extensive acquaintance with the structure and habits of animals, an extent of knowledge in this department which, notwithstanding the advantages he is known to have possessed, is quite extraordinary for the period at which he wrote. Some of Aristotle's descriptions of quadrupeds were considered by Cuvier as superior to those of Buffon, and in the lowest tribes of animals we shall see that his details are sometimes more minute and accurate even than those of Cuvier himself.

After the time of Aristotle much attention was devoted to this subject by medical men, from a laudable desire to become better acquainted with the true nature of disease, and from the difficulty of obtaining human bodies for that purpose in those times of ignorance and superstition. Diocles, Herophilus, Erasistratus, Ælian, and Galen, directed their attention to this branch of anatomy. The writings of Ælian in particular contain much information on all the classes of the animal kingdom; and it is well known that almost the whole of the anatomical knowledge which Galen applied to the human body, was derived from the dissection of the lower animals. This, in particular, has been detected by the numerous errors into which he has been led by applying the osteology of quadrupeds to the human skeleton.

The natural history of the Elder Pliny, like the voluminous writings of Aristotle, may be regarded as an encyclopædia of all the knowledge of the time when it was written, and by the few facts in comparative anatomy which it has recorded, in addition to those of the Greek philosopher; it marks the slow progress of this science during a period of four hundred years, which intervened between them.

During the long darkness of the middle ages the scientific investigation of the animal frame appears to have retrograded rather than advanced. So late as the beginning of the sixteenth century, the writings of Rondeletius, Columbus, and Aldrovandus, may be said to have recreated this study, and by pointing out its practical applications they gave a proper direction to the pursuit. The works of Fabricius contain many zootomical details; and, in his public instructions, the illustrations which he drew from comparative anatomy directed the views of his pupil Harvey. It was by experiments and dissections of the lower animals that Harvey ascertained the true course of the blood through the system, and thus established a discovery which has changed the face of medical science. The singular discovery of Galvani, which has had as marvellous an influence on the science of chemistry, and has led to the establishment of the new science of galvanism, was made by observing the contractions of the muscular fibres while that physician was dissecting a frog.

The discovery of the lacteal vessels, by Asellius of Pavia, in 1622, was made by examining the mesentery of a live dog.

The thoracic duct was first detected by Eustachius in examining the viscera of a horse, and the true function of this canal was afterwards ascertained by Pequet, by observations made on other quadrupeds as early as 1651.

Asellius's discovery of the lacteals in quadrupeds was known for twelve years before Veslingius detected them in the human body.

That minute and indefatigable zootomist, Swammerdam, whose splendid "Biblia Naturæ" has thrown so much light on the organization of the lowest tribes of animals, was the first who observed the valves in the absorbent vessels in 1664. The absorbent vessels themselves had been discovered about ten years before both in England and Sweden.

The importance of the discoveries thus due to comparative anatomy in illustrating the anatomy and physiology of the human body, and the numerous improvements they introduced into medical science, gave a new impulse to the study in most of the schools of Europe.

The zootomical details of Severinus and Blasius, the minute and accurate investigations of Redi, Malpighi, and Swammerdam, the valuable contributions of Perrault and Duverney, and the useful labors of our countrymen Tyson, Needham, Grew, and Collins, considerably extended the boundaries of the science about the beginning of the seventeenth century, and the many striking instances of design and intelligence, which they pointed out in the economy of the inferior animals, excited a more lively interest in these pursuits.

The numerous and interesting inquiries of Reaumur, and the writings of Duvernoy, Caldesi, Valentini, Meyer, and Steller, laid open many new and curious paths of investigation. The voluminous writings of Haller showed the utility of this study in every department of human anatomy and physiology. The beautiful works of Roesel and Trembly and Ellis, excited a lively interest among the physiologists and naturalists of Europe, by the singular and unexpected results of their investigations into the structure of the lowest and most neglected tribes of animals.

From the rapid progress and the subdivision of the other physical sciences, and from the vast extent of the animal kingdom, the study of zootomy began now to be separated from that of the human body, and its progress and history to become distinct from those of human anatomy, with which they had been hitherto identified

The precision introduced into the study of the animal kingdom by the philosophical arrangements of Linnæus, the taste created for the study by the eloquence and genius and labors of Buffon, the numerous and elaborate descriptions of Daubenton, Camper, Pallas, and Vicq-d'Azyr, the curious zootomical discoveries of Lyonnet, Goeze, De Geer, Muller, Spallanzani, and Fontana; the many useful contributions of Scarpa, Gouan, Leske, Bloch, Camparetti, Steno, Kielmeyer, Petit, Ferrein, Barthez, Hedwig, Rafn, Blake, Tenon, Lordat, Rosenmuller, Geoffroy, Merrem, and the elder Meckel, and the useful labors of our countrymen Douglass, Hewson, Monro primus and secundus, and the two Hunters, not only enlarged the boundaries of the science in all its departments, and raised its importance in the scale of knowledge, by the numerous useful applications of its principles which they pointed out, and by the luminous views they unfolded regarding the general laws of animal organization, but succeeded also in giving an impulse to the study in many of the first universities of Europe.

(To be continued.)

(For the Zodiac.)

THE DEATH SONG OF THE BLIND GIRL OF THESSALY.

LAST DAYS OF POMPEII.

I cannot gaze upon that brow, where light and beauty are,
Or see those parted ruby lips, and the bright smiles they bear,
I can but hear that silvery voice, that bids me not repine,
Or feel that soft hand's gentle touch, when it is press'd to mine.

I know Ione 's beautiful, I know that she is fair,
And bright too as the summer days with pleasant breezes are,
While I, oh! beauty never smil'd upon my pallid cheek,
With grace and glory like to her's, of which I can but speak!

O, beauty is a blessed gift, it brings the heart to bow,
Before the flashing eye and lip, and to the Parian brow;
Yes—he the only one who thought of me, to save,
Bows at her feet, and seeks the love I all uncall'd for, gave.

I would that I were as I was, when winds of Thessaly,
Wafted their fragrance o'er my cheek, and I was like them, free,
For, oh! I cannot bear to hear his soft and winning tone,
Pour'd in her ear, and all the love, I would that I had known.

He knows not that my heart is his, knows not the depths that dwell,
Within this almost bursting heart, the founts of love that swell,
And when those fingers o'er my brow, the long dark tresses part,
He knows not all the madd'ning thoughts he wakes within my heart.

I would that cruel Ione were in her native land,
And her cold brow, by this fair breeze, had never once been fann'd,

It were but light, if I were scorn'd, were I not doom'd to hear,
The love he pours upon her heart, forever in mine ear!
I will not live to know him bound, forever to her side,
And she, the envied Ione, his own beloved bride;
The sea is blue—what if they say, that those who 'neath it sleep,
Lull'd by the murmurs of the wave, to slumbers long and deep,
Will never wander in the groves, where blessed spirits are,
I would not ask Elysium, though Glaucus should be there,
For Ione would love him still, forever by his side!
I'd rather sleep in darkness here, beneath the foaming tide.
And the billows op'd, and in foam they clos'd,
Where the form of the blind girl, deep repos'd,
And a spirit of song from the earth had pass'd,
Like the wild flowers swept by the autumn blast.

EDITH.

(For the Zodiac.)

THE DISAPPOINTMENTS OF LIFE.

We are of that class of moralists who believe the ills of life are chiefly attributable to ourselves, and that if we are not as happy or as prosperous as we are capable of being, it is because we have neglected those precautions which it is our interest and our duty to observe. When ever we hear men complaining of their want of luck, or their want of friends, and attributing to these their want of success, we set it down as a truth, that other causes have led to the results of which they complain. Every man may rise to any grade in life, for which he has natural or acquired ability. We all, it is true, cannot reach the same station; but all may reach the same grade, and if we do not, it is most generally because we are vicious, or idle, or imprudent. If this principle was thoroughly understood in life, we should see much less misery around us, and we should be spared the numerous examples of blighted hopes and ruined prospects. We know some men of superior talents and excellent opportunities, who have never reached beyond the threshold of usefulness, because they have been waiting for patronage,—for some one to assist them in their pursuits. Misled by their self-regard, they have expected the rich and powerful to hasten to them with extended arms, and lift them at once into notoriety and eminence. Disappointed in these expectations, they have passed their time rather in murmurs against mankind, than in the examination of themselves, and after years of struggling, between wounded pride and the consciousness of merit, they have faded from the remembrance of the world; oftentimes falling victims to the inebriating cup, in whose Lethe they wished to forget themselves. Others, with ardent temperament, rush into life, without a due knowledge of the world, or a just opinion of its condition. They imagine themselves the favorites of heaven, and equal in all respects to their fellow men; not fortified by wisdom, or trained by experience, they boldly venture into the conflict for wealth, or fame, or honor. A few short years disclose the error into which they have fallen. The world, which does not readily yield its good opinion to the presumptuous, has proved more than a match for them, and they have generally retired discomfited and disgusted. There are again others who commence life with advantages, which the industry or interest of friends has obtained for them, but how often do we see a fine education and an ample fortune equally useless to their young possessor. How many miserable wretches prowl about the outskirts of society, whose parents were among the honorable, the wealthy, and the wise. Their descendants expected to enjoy the utmost varieties of pleasure, without thinking of the penalties of its excesses; to indulge in an unbounded profusion, without supplying the sources of their extravagance; to spend and never replenish; to stretch their physical powers to their greatest tension, and never have them break; when at length, with the loss of wealth and fortune, they have found their friends drop off "like leaves in wintry weather," they too have joined the chorus of the discontented, and called down maledictions on the world. There are some who, on approaching manhood, note with a superficial observation the advantages of wealth. They at once resolve to become rich, not by those habits of thrift, the exercise of a wholesome self-denial, and the persevering application to business, which are certain to produce the desired result, but with a bold spirit of speculation, by rushing madly into debt, by incurring risks they may never be able to meet; with all the ardor of a gambler, staking years of happiness and contentment on the hazard of a die. Their chances are but one in a thousand. The vicissitudes of trade, the changes of public policy, the action and reaction of credit, are all at work uninfluenced, unaffected by the petty stake which is won or lost in their changes. Here and there an adventurer succeeds, while every where thousands are lost never to emerge again with character or fortune. These too swell the cry of the disappointed, and mourn over the calamities of life. How unreasonable! All the classes of persons have been in fault themselves. They have "overstepped the modesty of nature," and ventured forth without due preparation. All these persons might easily have escaped the unhappiness they complain of, by a due regard to themselves and others. The man of talents should have continued to cultivate them, without regard to present patronage. Was he poor? The actual wants of our nature are cheaply supplied. The fault was not in them, but in himself. Franklin lived on penny rolls till he was able to live on something else. Gifford made shoes, till his hour of triumph came. History is full of the examples of eminent men who, nothing daunted, knew how to bide their time. And it may be laid down as a truth not to be disputed, that talent, with a discreet regard for the observances of life, will in due season be rewarded with a full share of honor and success. The difficulty lies in the haste of temper or unregulated sensibilities of the possessor. Those on the other hand who have mistaken their own powers, and with self-esteem, have vainly imagined they possessed intuitively all the qualities requisite to success, cannot blame any but themselves, since the slightest knowledge of the world, with which they imagined themselves familiar, would have shown them how utterly unreasonable in them it was to expect an exemption from the consequences of misconduct. Their very presumption closed the door against them, by which they hoped to enter, and the crowd through which they intended to pass, without even a jostle, has never failed to oppose their further progress. These persons should have learned to restrain the ardor of pursuit, until they were better qualified for the chase. A little more modesty of demeanor, and a less display of self-confidence, would have facilitated their views in life, and have enabled them to move on with less resistance from the general mass. Those who are prodigal of health and fortune, have even less to excuse their errors than the preceding class, since the fault of the former is often connected with a generous disposition, which makes us often regret their failures. But he who perverts the blessings of health, and misapplies the bounties of heaven, who runs riot with his passions and throws away the means of usefulness, deserves not the pity he would claim. Revelation and experience, both teach him the error of his way, and he rushes to his fate with a full knowledge of its inevitable misery. Those again who seek to obtain wealth, without the trouble of its acquisition, are also a class who have none to blame but themselves, when the chances of life turn suddenly against them. There is no error more distinctly pointed at than this. The earliest fables of our infancy teach us not to lose the substance when grasping at the shadow. Industry and economy will certainly ensure their possessor his full reward. There never was an instance where these qualities did not produce the desired result. Circumstances connected with them may have temporarily affected their progress, but never their conclusion; and to an enlightened and disciplined mind, their exercise has been accompanied by a pleasure, that wealth itself could never give. On the other hand, how lamentable is the fate of those persons, who from competence or independence, are plunged into penury or distress. The gulf into which they threw themselves, closes over them, and despair succeeds the illusions of hope. There is no error into which the young and thoughtless so easily fall as that of creating debts. The facility with which this is at first done, seems to blind them to the consequences. They imagine that it will be always as easy to escape from, as to incur them. Not so. The debtor is the slave of the creditor, since the former is bound by the laws of God and man to fulfil every such obligation. He who therefore places himself in this position, knows what he has to expect at the day of repayment, and he has no right to complain of any consequences he has rashly brought upon himself. Better, far better, to live on bread and water, and be independent, than incur any debt without the means of payment. One-half the ills of life arises from the thoughtlessness of debtors, and the demands of their incensed creditors. But let not those rail at their fellow men as the cause of their misfortunes, who bring them so heedlessly upon themselves.

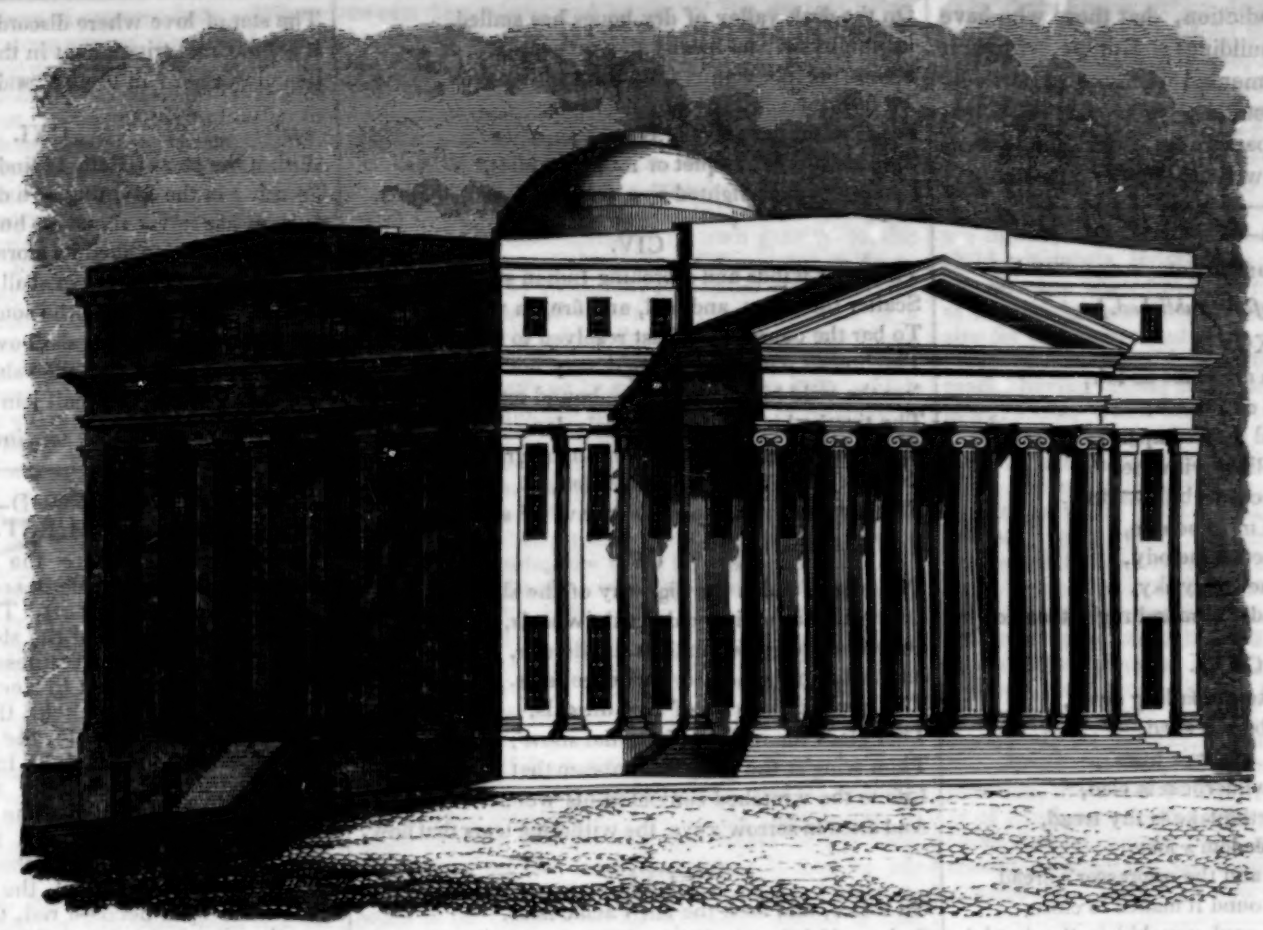
The writer of this speaks from a close and rigid scrutiny of his own conduct, when in concluding this article, he avers, that what ever of disappointments he has known in life, he can attribute to his own disregard or disbelief of the consequences to himself, which he had seen attach to the conduct of others; and what ever of happiness, reputation or good fortune has attended him, may be attributed solely to the exercise of prudence, patience, and perseverence, under the regulating influence of moral accountability.

The following poem, by Coleridge, is not contained in the recent edition of his poetical works. It is worthy of preservation.

Lines written in the Common-Place Book of Miss Barbour, Daughter of our late Minister to England.

Child of my muse! in Barbour's gentle hand,
Go cross the main: thou seek'st no foreign land:
'Tis not the clod beneath our feet we name
Our country. Each heaven-sanctioned tie the same,
Laws, manners, language, faith, ancestral blood,
Domestic honor, awe of womanhood;
With kindling pride thou wilt rejoice to see,
Britain with elbow-room, and doubly free!
Go, seek thy countrymen! and if one scar
Still linger, of that fratricidal war,
Look to the maid who brings thee from afar;
Be thou the olive leaf, and she the dove,
And say, I greet thee with a brother's love!

Grove, Highgate, Aug. 1829. S. T. COLERIDGE.



DESCRIPTION OF THE NEW STATE HALL.

Previous to our entering upon the description of the new State Hall, now in progress of building, in the city of Albany, and which is represented by the above engraving, it may be proper to notice briefly the following laws, passed by the legislature of this state, relating to its construction.

A committee was appointed by a resolution of the Senate, in 1833, to examine the present State Hall, which reported in favor of taking down the wing fronting on Lodge-street, and of erecting another of more suitable dimensions, and which should be fire proof. A law was thereupon passed, authorizing the trustees to repair the buildings in which the public offices and records are kept, and, in their discretion, to erect a new building in place of the wing; and an appropriation was made to carry the law into effect.

Owing to the difficulties to be surmounted to fit the present building to the wants of the state, another law was passed at the latter end of the same session, 1833, authorizing the trustees, in their discretion, to sell the present State Hall, together with the lands belonging to the same; and with the proceeds of the sale, and the monies already appropriated, to purchase a site and erect a new State Hall.

The trustees deeming the appropriations insufficient to justify the purchase of a site, and the commencing of the building, made a report to that effect, in 1834; whereupon a further appropriation was made, which enabled the trustees to purchase the present site, fronting upon the academy square, and to commence the new building. The trustees submitted the plans and estimates to the legislature in 1835.

The new State Hall covers an area of 138 by 88 feet; and contains four stories. The longest sides running nearly north and south, and the principal front facing west, towards the academy park, and separated from it by Eagle-street. The materials with which the building is to be constructed, are brick and stone, and the exterior is to be faced with cut stone from Mount-Pleasant. The ceilings are to be arched with brick, which arches are to support the floors of the several stories, rendering the whole fire proof. The roof is to be covered with copper. The walls are made unusually thick, in order to resist the pressure of the internal arches and floors; and additional strength is gained by strong iron anchors at each floor, running longitudinally and transversely, and firmly leaded into the external walls.

The principal and second stories are ornamented, externally, with Grecian antæ, which rest upon the projecting die of the building, and extend upwards to the attic story, and which support the entablature extending round the building at the upper termination of the two principal stories. The west front is to be ornamented by a well proportioned portico, comprising six Grecian Ionic columns, supported by the steps and platforms at the principal entrance, and surmounted by suitable proportioned entablature and pediment. The east side will be ornamented by a similar pediment, supported by antæ. A neat cornice terminates the attic story, surmounted by the parapet, which is intended to conceal the roof.

A hemispherical dome, of forty feet diameter, containing the sash through which the light passes to the rotunda, terminates the upper part of the building.

The basement story is to contain six rooms of 22 by 33 feet, and two dark rooms of the same dimensions, suitable for wood and coal; also two halls of 22 by 33 feet, and two of 10 by 45 feet, and an area under the rotunda, in the centre of the building, of thirty-three feet diameter. The basement story is fourteen feet high, including the arches and floors. The principal story contains six rooms of 22 by 33 feet, one room 33 by 47 feet, two rooms of 13 by 22 feet, two halls 10 by 45 feet, and one hall of 22 by 33 feet, which latter is at the principal entrance, and contains the stair cases: and the rotunda, which is thirty-three feet in diameter.

The second and third stories each contain nine rooms of 22 by 33 feet, a hall of 22 by 33 feet, and two halls of 10 by 45 feet, and the rotunda of thirty-three feet diameter. The principal and second stories, including the floors and arches, will occupy twenty-two feet each in height; the attic story will be fourteen feet in the clear. The whole height of the building, above the side-walk, at the west front, will be about sixty-five feet; the declivity of the ground, eastward, will increase the height of the east side to about seventy-four feet. We are not aware that any appropriation of the rooms has been made, as regards the different public offices: it is probable, however, that the large room, and two of those of 22 by 33 feet, will be required by the comptroller, for the business connected with his office; two will be required by the secretary; the attorney-general, the treasurer, surveyor-general, the adjutant-general, register in chancery, and the clerk of the supreme court, will each require one; leaving four for the future exigencies of the state.—The interior is to be furnished in a plain style, in all respects suited to the purposes of public offices. The rotunda will have an estrade or gallery extending round it at the second and third story floors, which will be supported by eight stone columns in each story, and inclosed by iron railings, to afford the necessary communications between the halls which centre at that point. It is probable that iron, in place of stone, will be used in constructing the principal stair cases, which commence at the right and left of the hall, near the principal entrance, and terminate in the third story.

It will readily be seen by an examination of the above engraving, that the temple form has not been adhered to in this edifice; the nature of the ground not admitting of that arrangement, if it had been considered the most suitable that could have been adopted. All will readily admit the claims of classical architecture, and the propriety of adopting it wherever we can do so, without too great a sacrifice. But where insurmountable difficulties are thrown in the way of its adoption, we may, without hesitation, adopt that form best suited to the circumstances. In the present case it may be said,

without fear of contradiction, that those who have admired the modern buildings of Europe, with their extended fronts, ornamented with centre porticos, and surmounted by suitably proportioned attics, will not regret this departure from the temple form in constructing the new State Hall.

INDIA—A POEM.

SECOND BOOK.

(Never before published.)

XCVII.

Britannia, there perhaps are gems as fair,
In the encasing emerald of the sea;
What continent or island may compare,
In all the wealth of intellect with thee?
Thou art as thine own ocean's billows free,
And mercy is enthroned in thine eye,
Lives on thy lips in sweetest melody,
Thy genius radiant as the starry sky,
Illumes the darken'd lands, in moral night that lie.

XCVIII.

In peace thy footstep, like the falling dews,
A living verdure on the barren shed,
And on thy pathway, in Aurora's hues
The dark and withered wilderness is clad,
In righteous war, the earthquake is thy tread,
In ruin overwhelming freedom's foes,
Friend of the oppress'd, and the oppressor's dread,
Thy hand delights the wound it makes to close,
Thy voice to soothe the soul wreck'd in the battle's woes.

XCIX.

Thine, lovely woman's intellectual eye,
The star of thought, the oracle of mind,
Whence, winged with sunbeams, its responses fly,
By which is life enlightened and refined,
The voice of music, sweeter than the wind,
Made vocal by the minstrelsy of eve,
The fair, the feeling blush of heaven designed,
By sympathy to soothe the souls that grieve,
And still the stormy waves that in the bosom heave.

C.

Thine, beauty's forms, and thine the unrival'd grace,
Such as the youthful poet never knew,
Of the bright beings of ethereal race,
Such visions as his fancy never drew,
When they have from the fairest fountains stream'd;
Of inspiration in the holiest hour,
And such in stone and canvass never gleam'd,
Beyond the pencil's or the chisel's power,
Train'd in the noblest walks of Academic bower.

CI.

How meek, how beautiful the evening's face,
When there is not a cloud her smile to mar,
And all her kindling gems you fondly trace.
The fairest jewel is the twilight star,
'Tis woman's emblem, but exceeded far,
The expression of the face, the embodied mind,
The smile, the spirit or the radiant car,
Passing the cheek in triumph, gentle, kind,
Man in the rosy links of sympathy to bind.

CII.

Thy courage, like the eagle, mounts the gale,
Jocund thy sons on danger's seas embark,
As if the breeze of pleasure swelled the sail,
Thy honor like the imperishable ark,
Would float majestic on the deluge dark,
Did all besides overwhelm'd in ruins lie,
Thy mercy like the warblings of the lark,
Drops in sweet showers of music from the sky,
Thy changeless faith is ratified on high.

CIII.

The gospel drops upon the thorny wild,
Rich as the falling dews to fertilize,
On the dark valley of dry bones has smiled,
In symmetry and beauty they arise,
It showers like manna from the melting skies,
To feed the spirit in the wilderness,
Fresh water from the flinty rock supplies,
Spreads a rare banquet of immortal bliss,
Lends the short-sighted eye, truth's telescopic glass.

CIV.

The polar winds and scorching Indian suns,
Scatter the snow, and hail, and fire, in vain,
To bar the course thou hast resolved to run,
The breeze with fever wing'd may not restrain,
Nor the wild billows of an ice-bound main,
The tiger's thicket, nor the boa's den.
The mountain as the sand's minutest grain,
Resists thy will the pestilential fen,
Thy foot may not impede, nor cave of savage men.

CV.

Thy mercy walks the highway of the sky,
Like star that on its golden axle wheels,
On which delighted nations fix the eye,
And either pole the holy influence feels.
Thy hand the oracles of God unseals,
That glads the regions of eternal snow;
Thou wing'st the glorious sunbeam that reveals
Life to the wretched convict in his woe,
And dries in sorrow's eye, the withering tears that flow.

CVI.

Go hence, and seek the fair Pacific isles,
So beautiful, but so distained with strife;
Where is the tiger's rage, the serpent's guile,
The poison'd arrow, and the scalping knife,
Of savage warfare, that was late so rife?
Peace in these vallies has her quiet reign,
As war had never hounded human life;
Never to slip the yelling dogs again,
The demon gentle's now, whose joy was giving pain.

CVII.

The man with scalps, who paved his path to fame,
Who reek'd it by the widow he had made,
In tears of blood who wrote his fearful name,
On the world's ruins, did the roses fade,
In his dark scowl; his palace floors were laid
With deep gash'd sculls; the music most he loved,
The dying groans of wretches he betray'd;
Gall was his heart—his hand with iron gloved,
He throb'd not but in hate, nor but to smite was moved.

CVIII.

Regenerated, gentle as a child,
In Christian triumph he forgives his foe,
And all the passions as the tempest wild,
That were like the volcano in their flow,
Have ceased with raging central fires to flow,
Now intellectual, polish'd and refined;
In the rude soil the kindly virtues blow,
Love moulds his heart, and Science stores his mind,
The terror of the earth, the darling of mankind.

CIX.

Why, in these lands, no longer do we see,
The sights the gentle pity's vision sear,
The living grave, and the impaling tree,
The nostril slit, the mutilated ear,
Red steel the eye ball from the socket tear,
The altar where the human victim bled,
The infernal sacrifice, the rite of fear.
The chain that bound the living to the dead.
The gospel herald came, forthwith the demon fled.

CX.

Ye islands of the south, arise, behold
Whether ye shiver in the icy cave,
Or tread on fields of emerald, and gold,
There is an emblem in the sky to save,
That long has shone unheeded on the wave,
It is the star of life, oh! turn your eye,
The star of love where discord may not rave;
It is the Cross triumphant in the sky,
Beaming good will to man, and mercy from on high.

CXI.

With it the star of Bethel blinds its light,
To usher in the dawning of a day,
Such as has never shone on human sight,
Since the creation shed its morning ray,
The ocean isles the vision shall obey,
That gem the bosom of the southern main,
Yet undiscovered, they shall own his sway,
Who come to save, and who shall come again,
And ages yet unborn, shall join the glorious train.

(To be continued.)

APPETITE FOR FOOD—HUNGER AND THIRST.

Hunger and thirst are the sensations by which instinct urges all animals to seek the food which is necessary for their support. The symptoms of hunger are pain at the pit of the stomach, great depression of spirits, bodily weakness, increased sensibility to cold, a disposition to sleep, rapid emaciation; and if food be still withheld, the action of the heart becomes quick and feeble, the respiration short and hurried, and the mind sinks into a state of stupor, or low muttering delirium, amidst which death closes upon the sufferer. The distress arising from excessive thirst is even of a more aggravated description; the mouth and throat become dry and heated, the tongue swells, the flow of saliva diminishes, the eyes become red, the respiration laborious, the circulation hurried, a sense of most painful constriction exists in the throat, the mouth is kept wide open to inhale every breath of air, the body becomes feverish, the mind troubled, and at length mania, terminating in death, supervenes. All animals can endure hunger longer than they can thirst; the symptoms of the latter run on more speedily to a fatal termination, and are to the sufferer utterly intolerable The inquisitions of Spain and Italy could not devise a more cruel punishment than that of withholding a drop of water from the unhappy creature condemned to die upon the rack; and "*Drink! drink!*" were generally the last words uttered by their dying victims.

It is interesting to ascertain the causes of every phenomenon in the animal economy, and those which give rise to the sensations of hunger and thirst have occasioned much speculation. The cause of hunger has, by one set of physiologists, been attributed to a painful sensation of the nerves of the stomach, produced by the irritation of the gastric juice; by another, to the coats of the stomach rubbing against each other; by another, to the liver dragging upon the diaphragm, or that transverse muscle which divides the chest from the abdomen, and immediately above which the stomach rests. Sir Charles Bell argues that the secretion of the gastric juice requires a provocative which is supplied by the food; and when this is not present, the nerves, wanting their wonted stimulus, suffer a sense of desire, which constitutes the pain of hunger. Accustomed, in fact, to this excitement, they acquire an aptitude for it—an orgasm—which, if not duly supplied with its accustomed provocative, experiences uneasiness, and disturbs by sympathy the skin, heart, lungs, and brain; in fact, all the organs of the system. It is quite evident that the primary sensation of hunger depends upon an irritation of the nerves; and hence any sudden mental emotion suspends the appetite. If any person, even at the most tempting banquet, receive any intelligence of a distressing nature, his appetite is immediately checked, and the previous desire for food is converted almost into loathing.—Even a sense of nausea is often induced. The celebrated Van Helmont, going to dine with a friend, met with an accident, by which he dislocated his ancle; his appetite immediately forsook him, but returned as soon as the bone was set. The suspension of the appetite did not arise from the mere bodily impression, for the appetite was re-established, though the pain continued after the dislocation was reduced. The cause of thirst is more obvious, arising evidently from the extreme dryness of the membrane lining the mouth, gullet, and stomach. Its want of lubricity is such as even to excite inflammation. Hence bleeding, by reducing the inflammatory excitement of the throat, re-

duces thirst: so also does the warm-bath. When long continued, the watery part of the blood diminishes, and, accordingly, it has been found that thirst is allayed by injecting water into the veins. To appease their thirst, sailors at sea often wear wet shirts. Water alone affords by no means the most speedy relief. It should be mixed with some gentle stimulus, as with a little wine or spirits.—Acid drinks also, by acting as stimuli, quickly relieve thirst. To a certain degree, thirst is under the control of habit. Those who indulge in the vicious habit of drinking often, are rendered thirsty by abstaining from their usual potation; but many persons, by habituating themselves only to small quantities of liquids with their meals, seem never to experience the sensation. Dr. Paris had under his care a lady of fifty years of age, who declared to him that she was perfectly unacquainted with the sensation of thirst. Sauvage relates two similar instances that occurred to himself, and Blumenbach quotes many examples of the same description. The sensation of hunger may be appeased by any narcotic substance being introduced into the stomach. Whenever the Indians of Asia and America take a long journey, and apprehend that they will be destitute of provisions, they mix the juice of tobacco with powdered shells, and make the mass into small balls, which, when the sensation of hunger occurs, they put into their mouths, retaining them there until they dissolve. A celebrated physician was once asked by a poor parishioner for alms, when he inquired of the petitioner what he had done with his last money, to which the poor man answered, that he had expended his last halfpenny in the purchase of roll-tobacco; upon which the doctor, expressing his surprise at such improvidence, was informed by the poor man that he could subsist longer on tobacco than on bread.—During the trial raised by an insurance office concerning the death of a late nobleman, it appeared, from the evidence of several apothecaries in Edinburgh, that many of the poor people in this city are in the habit of taking drams of laudanum for the same purpose. Although the pains of hunger may by such means be for a time relieved, the repetition of so imprudent an act never fails, by destroying the tone of the stomach, to entail the most abject misery on the individual.

The introduction of spirits into the stomach also relieves the pains of hunger. It has been said, on the authority of Polidori, Lord Byron's physician, that, entertaining a dread of becoming corpulent, his lordship frequently abstained from food for many days, and in the meantime appeased his hunger by a wafer and a glass of brandy. Mechanical pressure, either internal or external, also mitigates for a time the cravings of hunger; hence many persons under such circumstances have swallowed sand, sawdust, earth, &c. An instance is related by Dr. Percival, of a madman who was afflicted with a voracious appetite, who, nevertheless, became emaciated and died; and upon examining his body, a compacted mass of hay and straw was found in the stomach. It is for this end that the Kamschatkan swallows quantities of sawdust; and even the inferior animals, to blunt the sense of hunger, adopt the same practice. The manis or pangolin, which swallows its food whole, will swallow stones or coals, or any other substance, if it cannot obtain nutriment. Many other animals have recourse to the same expedient; hence, mixed pieces of coal, stone, slate, and earth, are often found in the stomach of the ostrich, cassowary, and even in that of the toad. It is the custom of some of the northern Asiatic tribes to relieve the pains of hunger by the pressure of a board placed externally over the region of the stomach, which they lace behind with cords, and tighten according to the lesser or greater uneasiness they experience. In this country, a tightened handkerchief or girdle is sometimes had recourse to for the same purpose. It is true that these various expedients may for the time alleviate or suspend the pains of hunger, but they afford only a temporary relief, for the explanation already given of the nature and object of the digestive process, renders it evident that the animal body continually demands the accession of new particles of matter; and if these be withheld by the want of nutritious diet, the waste of the system will exceed the amount of its reparation, and, consequently, rapid emaciation must ensue. Hence the cause of persons who die from starvation wasting so rapidly away.

If the human body be liable to present us with this wretched appearance, from the balance between the waste and repair of the system being broken by the want of nutritious particles being supplied, it is also liable to present us with the appearance of excessive fatness, arising from an excess of nutritious particles being superadded. In this case, the excess of nutrition is deposited, under the form of fat, in little cells or bags beneath the skin, and between the muscles; and the object of its being deposited in these little cells or bags is to prevent it descending by its own gravity to the depending parts of the body. The water in dropsy, not being so confined, gravitates to the extremities; and for this reason the legs of persons of a weakly habit, in whom the watery part of the blood is liable to be effused or to escape, swell at night; but the fat confined in a series of little cells, which do not communicate with each other, is retained in its natural place of deposition. The fat is then to be regarded as a reservoir of nutrition; for during abstinence, the body, as it were, preys upon itself, and is supported by the re-absorption of this substance. For this reason, we find infants always fatter than adults; the truth is, they grow fast, and a greater supply of nutritious particles is demanded to increase the bulk of the different textures of which the body is composed. Besides this, infants, from the numerous febrile diseases to which they are liable, are more apt to suffer from repeated attacks of sickness than adults; and during such attacks, food being inadmissible, they derive their support mainly from this provision. It is stated by Dr. Stark, that, during abstinence, the fat which is re-absorbed into the system, for the time being, is more capable of repairing the waste of the body than any food that may be taken. It may be added, that the marrow which exists in the bones appears to be a provision for nutrition similar to that of the fat; hence, in the bones of oxen that have been overdriven, and in those of animals that have died of starvation, no marrow is found.

It may happen, even in the richest towns in Great Britain, that we may meet with some poor creature almost dying of starvation, and in such circumstances it is desirable that every humane person should understand how nourishment should be administered. The stomach having been long empty, and rendered consequently very irritable, will not bear solid food, or any strong liquids; such would excite vomiting, and perhaps delirium. If the pulse be low, a gentle stimulant should first be given; a small teaspoonful of aromatic spirit of ammonia in a glass of water will answer well, and, until the pulse rises, may be repeated at intervals. The greatest care should be taken to restore also, or sustain by external means, the warmth of the body; for which purpose hot flannels and gentle friction may be advantageously applied. A little warm broth or beef-tea should then be given every two or three hours; thus the digestive organs will be gradually restored to the exercise of their functions, and then solid nutriment may be given with impunity. At first, however, the liquid or solid aliment should be administered in small quantities, for the stomach and digestive organs, on being re-excited to action, are always very irritable, and may be easily over-excited, in which case delirium and fever may be induced.

In consequence of a very irritable state of the nerves of the stomach, caused probably by acidity, a preternatural appetite or craving for food often occurs, and persons so affected will frequently devour the most indigestible substances. Many instances are recorded of individuals who have sought to devour with avidity earth, cinders, spiders, toads, serpents, bits of wood, hair, soap, candles, paper, &c. Among the blacks in Jamaica, an epidemic disease, consisting of a craving to devour dirt, under the form of clay or loam, has been described by the celebrated Hunter. It is a disease, indeed, which, under the term of *Pica*, is noticed in all systems of medicine, and is apt to prevail among the Swiss, the Welsh, and the people of mountainous districts, who are unable, according to their passionate desire, to revisit their native country. A case is related by Dr. Darwin, of a young lady, about ten years of age, who devoured the earth out of a flower-pot, and then vomited it up mixed with bits of stone, wood, and wings of insects. Stones, glass, and even leaden bullets, have been swallowed by persons affected with this disease. In the healthy state of the human body, the appetite for food, however, admits of considerable control; for if the meals be taken at regular and fixed times, the desire for food will always recur at stated intervals. It should be noticed, however, that persons sitting down to eat when very hungry, are apt to overload the stomach before the sensation of hunger is perceptibly relieved. This is an error which should be carefully guarded against, as it is apt to cause heartburn, and other distressing maladies. The appetite for food, both solid and liquid, may be so pampered as to rest itself satisfied only by the most dainty and luxurious dishes; and hereby, it is obvious that two very grievous evils are induced. First, the stomach, like a spoiled child constantly indulged with such luxuries, becomes more urgent in its demand for the repetition of the indulgence; it acquires an aptitude and desire for highly dressed food, which, if not gratified, gives rise to painful sensations; in fact, the stomach, having been accustomed to be over-stimulated, sinks, when the excitement is withheld, into a relaxed or torpid state, and the ability to perform its natural functions becomes sensibly impaired. Second, although an evil of less magnitude to the sufferer, the habit of pampering the appetite, whereby that which was once a luxury becomes converted into a necessity, must render him liable to be placed in situations where his epicurean desires cannot be gratified, in which case he must suffer inconvenience himself, and be an annoyance to the other persons in society. Let the appetite for food, therefore, like all the other appetites or passions which are incident to humanity, be duly regulated; let parents, in particular, remember that the plainer the food is to which they accustom their children, the better; health, happiness, and serenity of mind, are not the offsprings of luxury, but of those simple, regular, and religious habits, which should assiduously be cultivated in early life.—*Chambers' Edinburgh Journal.*

[From Chamber's Edinburgh Journal.]

LINES

On sending out to his Parents in a distant Colony, a little boy who had been left an infant with his relatives in this country.

The guardians of his infant days
  Yield to a higher right:
The hour arrives, the vessel weighs,
  That bears him from our sight.
But ere she stretches to the deep,
He, wondering, weeping, sinks to sleep.

At morn, no loved familiar face
  His waking hour attends;
No well-known object can he trace,
  Nor hear the voice of friends,
Who, from the dawn of childhood dim,
Had still been all the world to him.

Nor can he, from the deck, see more
  The castle with its towers,
The dome-crown'd hill, the winding shore,
  The gardens and their flowers.
His eye now rests on nothing, save
The flying cloud and rolling wave.

But lighter feelings soon find scope
  To chase the transient gloom,
And wonder, fancy, gladness, hope,
  Their wonted sway resume.
Grief no abiding place can find
Within the buoyant infant mind.

He scans the secrets of his ark,
  He loves the deck to roam;
And soon that lone and little bark
  Becomes to him a home.
The waste of waters and the sky
No longer strike his startled eye.

The sailors love him—as he runs,
  Smile at his merry falls;
While some will sigh for little ones,
  Whose image he recals;
And kind to him, feel as if kind
To those they love and leave behind.

And still to love him, that is all
  Our portion in him now,
Fixed by what memory will recal
  Or fancy may allow:
Far from his fathers' distant shore,
He can return to us no more.

We see him wonder, as arose
  The enchanted castle's wall,
Or laugh at all the comic woes
  Which Gilpin did befall:
Or mourn the fatal arrow sped
That stretched Cock Robin with the dead.

We hear him say those little hymns
So simple and sincere,
Or gaily chaunt the nursery rhymes
To childhood ever dear.
In all his lisping words a grace
We almost grieved time should efface.

While evening deepens into gloom
To tell the tale oft told;
To watch the flowers of fancy bloom,
Or reason's buds unfold;
To mark the good and true imprest
Upon his young and artless breast.

These were our pleasures and our cares,
Which others now must know;
If He who or destroys or spares,
Shall overrule it so—
May He control the tempest's force,
And guide the vessel in her course.

And though by nature called away
To a new home of joy,
Oft may his thoughts to usward stray,
Our little wandering boy.
Yet be no shade of sorrow cast
O'er his fond memory of the past.

From the Atheneum.

(Never before published in this country.)

On the engraving and multiplying of Dies, and on Medals. By W. Wyon, A. R. A, chief Engraver at the Royal Mint.

ENGRAVING AND MULTIPLYING OF DIES.

With respect to the ancient practice of engraving and multiplying dies, we have very little information handed down to us, and as the coins themselves attest the employment of very able artists, it is singular that we should be unacquainted with any of their names; there is but one exception, which is found upon a coin of Crete. We are equally uncertain as to the materials with which the dies were made. It is, however, related that ancient dies have been found at different periods; and Count Caylus mentions that one came into his possession, which was composed of copper, tin, zinc and lead, in equal proportions. But we are not aware of any compound of these metals capable of resisting the force of the blow necessary for making a perfect impression in the metals used for coinage. An ancient die found at the temple of Nismes, probably of the same materials, was submitted to a blow of the coining press in the French mint, and thereby broken to pieces. It is probable that iron or steel was used for this purpose, as it was not unknown to the ancients.

The mode of striking their moneys must have been extremely simple, and the instruments used for the purpose, are probably to be seen on a coin of the republic—it has on the obverse, the head of a female, with the inscription "Moneta," and on the reverse, the pincers, the hammer and the anvil. The metal was cast in a globular shape, and having been placed between two dies, the upper one was struck with a hammer. We have evidence of this blow being repeated, by the appearance of their coins; they are frequently, what is technically called, double struck; this occurs when the piece has slipped out of its place after the first blow, and a repetition of the blow causes a double outline to appear.*

The following is a brief account of the present mode of engraving and multiplying the dies. The selection of the best cast steel for the purpose is very important, and not sufficiently understood at present. The very fine steel that forms excellent gravers and other cutting instruments, is unfit for the purpose, for unless hardened with great care, it is very liable to crack. The very coarse steel is also objectionable, as it acquires fissures under the die press. The object is therefore to select steel of a medium quality. But the best steel may be spoiled, by want of skill in the smith who forges the dies.

When the rough die is brought to a table in the turning lathe, after being softened, the engraver commences his labors, by working out the device with the small tools in intaglio (sunk in), and when he has completed his work, the die is ready for hardening, which is in itself a very simple process, but one that is often attended with serious disappointments to the engraver, for it not unfrequently happens, that the labor of many months is either injured or utterly destroyed, from the steel itself being faulty or heated to excess. But supposing the original die, or, as it is technically called, the matrix, to be uninjured by the process of hardening, it is reserved for the purpose of furnishing a puncheon (or a steel impression in relief.) For this purpose, a block of soft steel is turned flat at the bottom and obtusely comical at the top. In this state, its conical surface is compressed into the matrix by a blow from the multiplying die press; this gives us only the commencement of an impression, for the die becomes so hard by compression, as to require frequent annealing and restriking before it is perfected. An impression taken in this way, is called a puncheon, which, when the engraver has given to it all the delicacy of finish existing in the original, is then hardened and serves for the purpose of making dies for coining by a similar process, viz., impressing the hardened steel into that which is soft.

One of the most important events in the history of our mint, was the invention of the mill and screw. Previous to the reign of Charles II. the money in circulation was made by forging or hammering slips of gold and silver to the proper degree of thickness, then cutting a square from the slip, which was afterwards rounded and adjusted to the weight of the money to be made; the blank pieces of money were then placed between two dies, having the device of the coin engraven upon them, and the upper die was struck with a hammer. This money was necessarily imperfect, from the difficulty of placing the two dies exactly over each other, when the blank piece was between them, as well as from the impossibility of a man being able to strike with such force, as to make all parts of the impression equally perfect. The mill and screw, or as we now term it, the coining press, was first invented in France, as is supposed, by Antoine Brucher, an engraver, in 1553, who first made trial of it in the palace of Henry II. It was introduced into this country by Nicolas Briot, from whose hand we have many patterns for coins during the reign of Charles I.; it was finally adopted at the restoration. We have also evidence of the mill and screw being used in the time of the Commonwealth.

The distinction between striking medals and coins, is very essential; so much so, that I cannot avoid saying something upon the subject. A medal is usually engraved in high relief, like those upon ancient coins, and it requires a succession of blows, sometimes forty or fifty, with repeated annealings to make a perfect impression. A modern coin, on the contrary, is usually brought up with one blow, although with the disadvantage of the medal being harder. Standard gold, for instance, consists of 1-12th of alloy: medals are usually made of fine gold; the engraving upon the coin is consequently made with a suitable degree of relief.

In striking a coin or medal, the lateral spread of the metal, which would otherwise ooze out as it were from between the dies, is prevented by the application of a steel collar, accurately turned to the dimensions of the dies. The number of pieces which may be struck by one pair of dies, not unfrequently amounts to between 3 and 400,000, but the average amount is much less. There have been instances of twenty dies destroyed in one day, owing to the different qualities of steel, and to the casualties to which dies are liable. There are eight presses in the coining room of the mint, and the destruction of one pair of dies for each press per day, is a very fair proportion, though it is generally rather more.

It must be remembered, that each press produces sixty pieces per minute, without reckoning the stoppages occasioned by changing of dies and other contingencies; in 1817, the daily produce of coins, in half-crowns, shillings and sixpences, amounted to the enormous quantity of 343,000 per day, for three months; at that time all the eight presses were employed; but on the 1st of April, 1834, there were 125,000 pieces coined with five presses only.—From the 4th of June, 1817, to the 31st of December, 1833, there were coined in sovereigns and half-sovereigns, £52,187,265 sterling.

MODERN MEDALS.

In many respects, the study of modern medals is as equally interesting as those of the ancients. On them, we find battles by sea and land, processions, coronations, funeral pomps, and other ceremonies, alliances, marriages, portraits of illustrious men, and all that relates to policy or religion Dates are rarely omitted, the absence of which on ancient coins and medals, causes so much uncertainty. There is also another circumstance that materially contributes to the pleasure to be derived from the study of modern medals, which is their proximity to our own time, and their recording great events, with which we are in some degree acquainted.

In using the term modern, as applied to the subject, it is generally understood to comprise all those medals since the time of Charlemagne, or the commencement of the 9th century, and it is curious to observe the intimate connection between literature and the study of medals; for we find one of the earliest writers (Petrarch), forming a collection, and recommending them to Charles IV. as fit objects for his study and contemplation, and with a plain sincerity that did him honor, requesting the emperor to imitate the great men thereon celebrated.

We are not aware of the existence of modern medals, of any importance, previous to the revival of the art in the 15th century, that is to say, in 1400, and then the art was principally in the hands of painters, among which we have the name of Pisano, Boldu, and others. Pisano is celebrated as the chief restorer of this branch of the art, and his works are usually inscribed "Opus Pisani Pictoris"; we have one of his of Ferdinand, king of Arragon, 1449, and another of John, Emperor of Constantinople, ten years before. All the medals of this period, are very unlike the ancient ones, being very large. They were previously modelled either in clay or wax, a cast from which being obtained in metal, it was carefully repaired, removing all the imperfections of casting, and giving a greater degree of finish than could be obtained in the original model. This then became a pattern, from which all the subsequent medals were cast; a slower mode of proceeding, and one preventing that rapidity of multiplication which we possess in the use of dies. The medals, however, thus produced, frequently present more vigor of execution; the heads upon them are very superior to their reverses.

The most ancient series of modern medals struck from dies, is the Papal. We have contemporary portraits of Popes from Paul II. 1464, to the present time. There are, indeed, papal medals from Martin V., 417, but all those before Paul II., were executed during the pontificate of Alexander VII., 1655; by the care and under the direction of Abbè Bigot. The medals from the time of Alexander VI., are very fine, and it is said, that the designs upon some of those, during the pontificate of Julius II., Leo X., Hadrian VI., and Clement VII., are by great masters, amongst whom were Raffaelle and Julio Romano. Banvenuto Cellini informs us, that he executed several medals of Clement VII. Cavino and Basiano, the celebrated forgers of Roman imperial coins, executed the medals from Julius III. to Gregory XIII. About the time of Innocent X., the very extraordinary family of artists, the Hamerani, appeared. They executed the papal medals for four or five generations, with great ability; even one of the daughters engraved an excellent medal; and some of those by Gasper Molo are very fine.—The pontifical dress imparts great richness to the portraits, and the reverses are often very elaborate; sometimes twelve or fourteen figures are crowded together in the representation of religious ceremonies, within a space considerably less than a crown piece. Perhaps we ought not to omit mentioning the medal of Julius III., on the occasion of Mary of England restoring the Roman Catholic religion in this country.

Next to Italy, France is the most remarkable country for medals. Louis XIV. is celebrated for his encouragement of the fine arts; he founded L'Academie des Inscriptions, for the purpose of selecting subjects and making designs for medals to commemorate the great events of his reign.—The result of the labors of the academy was the production of nearly three hundred medals. The style of art exhibited in these, was in accordance with the taste of the period—it wants simplicity. Landscapes and a variety of emblems are crowded together in the back-grounds, for the purpose of giving a picturesque effect, which is injurious—the resources of the art being limited in comparison with those of painting. Mr. Flaxman's remarks are considered as particularly applicable to

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* A paper was read before the London Society of Antiquaries, May 1, 1834, communicated by Mr. Hay, on some clay moulds for casting money, which were discovered in Yorkshire some time ago. They are of Roman origin and retain the dies of some of the coins of Septimius Severus, and others of his successors.—The principal interest connected with these moulds is, that they seem to prove casting, and not striking, to have been the mode more commonly used by the Romans in coining.—*London Atheneum.*

this subject, where he says of the limited powers of basso-relievo, "that a tree or two, some rude stone, or a wall slightly marked in the back ground, must indicate a forest, a mountain, or a palace, without detailing a portrait of their component parts."

Napoleon well understood the moral and political influence of the fine arts; his series of 160 medals is an evidence of the care and attention he bestowed upon the Mint, and these imperishable memorials will give immortality to his extraordinary career. They were executed under the direction of Denon: on the obverse of all of them we have the fine profile of Napoleon, and many of the reverses are admirable works of art. The battle of Jena, Jupiter launching his thunder against the Titans, Mars sheathing his sword after the battle of Friedland, Napoleon personifying Hercules, with two female figures kneeling, and presenting him with the keys of Vienna and Presburgh, may be mentioned as examples; but for the most part, they rather astonish us with a display of mechanical execution; the large medal of the battle of Marengo is surprising for the minuteness of the workmanship; and the medal of Pope Pius VII., in the coronation of Napoleon, is also remarkable for the execution of the building of Notre Dame on the reverse. Andrieu, Galle, Droz and Brenet, were some of the most celebrated artists employed. But the Napoleon medals are not always implicitly to be relied on by the historian: as an instance, Bonaparte caused a medal to be struck on his intended invasion of this country; on the obverse, as usual, is the head of the emperor, and the reverse represents Hercules strangling a marine monster, round is the legend "DESCENTE EN ANGLETERRE," and in the exergue, "Frappeé a Londres." Happily for us, this was struck in anticipation only. This medal was afterwards destroyed: some few specimens, however, escaped, but they are excessively rare.

Under such high auspices the art is recommended to, and encouraged by the public, and individuals begin to pride themselves, on their medallic taste, and not unfrequently adopt this mode of giving permanence to matters interesting to their feelings. It is not unusual, for instance, in France, for a medal to be engraved on the event of a marriage, with portraits of the hymeneal votaries, or with their names inscribed upon them, and some emblems of the happy event. Russia, Prussia and Sweden, have emulated France in this passion for numismatic records.

In our own country, on the contrary, with the exceptions of a few coronation medals, scarcely any have been struck by authority of the government. But notwithstanding this neglect, the enterprise of individuals has produced many interesting medals, which show the spirit of the times in which they were executed.

The first contemporary English medal is of Sir John Kendal, in 1480, and of Italian workmanship. We have a gold medal of Henry VIII., date 1545. Mr. Evelyn remarks, that in this medal Henry appears in his usual bonnet, furred gown, and invaluable collar of rubies. The first coronation medal of England, is the one of Edward VI.; it is of very indifferent workmanship, and in low relief. There are several beautiful medals of Trezzo, of Philip and Mary, and many curious ones of Elizabeth, on her accession to the crown, and the defeat of the Spanish armada, in 1588. The medals of Elizabeth are generally cast, and have highly raised borders richly embossed; during this reign, too, we have some exquisite medals by the famous Stephens, of Holland; and it is doubtful whether there are any works superior to them for style in art; the admirable manner in which the flesh is treated, in distinction to the hardness of bone, in the face, cannot be sufficiently studied or admired by the medallic artist or amateur; the reverses, however, are not equal to the heads. All the medals by Stephens are exceedingly rare.

The history of James I. is tolerably well preserved in medals; they generally, in style, resemble those of Elizabeth; but there is a very good one by Warin, of Sir Thomas Bodley, founder of the Bodleian Library at Oxford. In the early part of the reign of Charles I., we have many counters struck on his marriage. The medals of this unfortunate monarch are numerous, many of which were engraved during the time of Charles II. by the Roettiers.

Cromwell was fortunate in having excellent artists. The two Simons executed all the best medals; Abraham was a modeller, and there still remain in the British museum many excellent models in wax by him; they were generally cast in Silver, and some of the best were left untouched from the casting, but others were admirably chased and repaired by Thomas Simon. The great merit in these works, is the characteristic expression of living nature; other artists have been more correct, but often coldly correct as compared with the Simons. A large oval medal struck in gold, was presented to Admiral Blake, after the engagement with Van Tromp, in 1653. The history of it was traced in a satisfactory manner till it came into the possession of Mr. Tiattle; his present majesty having heard of the circumstance, and feeling a deep interest in the naval glory of our country, gave a large sum for it, and the medal is now in his collection. Of Charles II. there are several good medals.

Many medals occur of James II., both before and after his abdication; and the events of the reign of William III. called forth many interesting medals—the Dutch ones extend even from his infancy. The medals of Queen Anne are not only interesting as works of art, but particularly so as recording the great events with which Marlborough illuminated her reign.

About 1730, John Dassier, a native of Geneva, settled in London, and engraved a series of medals of the kings of England; they would be more valuable if the portraits could be relied on; he also executed a set of small medals of the Reformers, and commenced a series of our great men; his nephew, James Antony, who, on Croker's death, was appointed second engraver to the mint, engraved several others. The character of workmanship of both the Dassiers, notwithstanding their industry and ingenuity, was that of extreme hardness and precision of outline; still there are very clever medals by them, and they evince an advance upon the state of the medallic art of that period.

EFFORTS OF GENIUS.

THIRD ARTICLE.

We now bring forward the conclusion of our list of men, who have risen from the lower ranks to eminence through the force of their genius and perseverance. Hawkesworth, the author of the Adventurer, was the son of a watchmaker, and was first brought up to that profession. He afterwards became a clerk to a stationer, and rose to distinction as a literary character. Sir John Hawkwood, a distinguished military commander of the fourteenth century, was originally an apprentice to a tailor; but entering as a private soldier, he rose to eminence. Herder, a German philosopher and writer, and who has been called the Fenelon of his country, was born of poor parents, and nurtured in adversity. Sir William Herschel, one of the greatest astronomers of modern times, was originally a player in the band of a Hanoverian regiment. Gen. Hoche, who commanded an expedition against Ireland, in 1796, began life as a stable boy. The Joan of Arc, who by her heroism, delivered France from the English, was born of poor parents, and supported herself in early life by keeping sheep and taking care of horses at a country inn. Samuel Johnson was the son of a bookseller at Litchfield, and attempted to support himself by keeping a school; before he became known, and was patronised by the crown, he had to endure severe pecuniary difficulties. Henry Jones, a poet and dramatist of last century, was born of poor parents at Drogheda, and was bred a brick layer. The famous Paul Jones was the son of a working gardener, and commenced his maritime life as a sailor boy. La Harpe, a French dramatist, poet, critic, and miscellaneous writer, was the son of a Swiss officer, who died in poverty, and left him an orphan, in such destitute circumstances, that he was supported by the sisters of Charity, and it was by their recommendations that he was gratuitously educated. Lannes, Duke of Montebello, and a marshal under Napoleon, who esteemed him highly for his bravery, was born of poor parents, and was, at his outset in life, a common dyer. David Levi, a Jew of considerable literary talent, and author of a variety of works, was first a shoemaker, and next a hatter, but contrived to acquire a respectable portion of learning. Leyden, the author of some beautiful Scottish poems, and a person of refined sentiment, was a son of a shepherd in Roxburghshire. Maitland, the historian of London and Edinburgh, began the world as a travelling dealer in hair. Benjamin Martin, who flourished as a writer on science at the beginning of the last century, was orginally a farmer's laborer, but by dint of perseverance he acquired sufficient learning to become a schoolmaster, and afterwards a lecturer on experimental philosophy. Matsys, an eminent Dutch painter, was originally a blacksmith, and his love for the daughter of an artist is said to have been his inducement to study painting. Moliere was the son of a valet-de-chambre of the French king. Murat, one of the most intrepid of the French marshals, was the son of an innkeeper at Bastide.—Ney, "the bravest of the brave," was the son of an artisan. Samuel Richardson, the author of Sir Charles Grandison, and other works of fiction, was the son of a joiner, and had a very scanty education; he was bound an apprentice to a printer, and by his genius and perseverance rose in his profession, and became an eminent literary character. Rousseau, one of the most eminent French writers, was the son of a watchmaker; and being apprenticed to an engraver, he was so ill-treated by his master, that he ran away before he was sixteen: his education was totally neglected, and for years he wandered as a vagabond seeking a precarious subsistence; yet by his natural abilities he brought himself into notice and fame. Ruyter, the famous Dutch admiral, began the world at eleven years of age as a poor sailor boy. The illustrious Shakspeare, was the son of a dealer in wool, and such was the poverty of the young dramatist, that he employed himself first as a prompter's call-boy; other accounts represent him as holding gentlemen's horses at the door of the play-house. Shield, the famous English violinist and musician, was the son of a singing-master, who left him fatherless: his early years were spent as an apprentice to a boat-builder, but his genius led him from this occupation to that of music, in which he was eminently successful. Jeremy Taylor, an eminent theologian and prelate, of the seventeenth century, was the son of a barber. Toussant L'Ouverture, who was appointed governor and president of the free black republic of St. Domingo, was born a slave, in which condition he remained till the revolution in the island brought forward his abilities and courage. Wallenstein, a celebrated German general, began life as a page to the margrave of Burgan—a situation almost equivalent to that of a foot-boy to an English country gentleman. Webbe, who has been so celebrated for his musical compositions, especially his glees, was originally a poor destitute boy, who gained a meagre subsistence by copying music, but by dint of incessant study, he became an excellent composer. West, the American painter, was the son of a quaker, and had many difficulties to contend with at his outset. Jarvis Spencer, a miniature painter of last century, was originally a valet, or menial servant. Hanam, the painter, was at first the apprentice of a cabinet maker. Richard Wright, and Lawrey Gilpin were originally ship-painters. Barry, an Irish painter, was originally a working mason. Sir Thomas Lawrence was the son of an inn-keeper at Bristol, and such was the poverty of his parents and his own natural genius, that, when a mere boy, he supported the family by painting. Giotto, the reviver of painting in Italy, was the son of a peasant, and he himself kept sheep while a boy. Ghret, the famous drawer of botanical objects, was the son of a working gardener. Canova was the son of a stone-cutter, was left an orphan, and raised himself entirely by his genius. Taylor, the water poet, was a waterman. Antonio Bianchi, an Italian poet, was a gondolier. Allan Ramsay was the son of a workman at Leadhills, and began life as a barber. Storr, the author of the Survey of London, and Speed, the author of the History of Great Britain, were originally tailors. And Anthony Purver, a self instructed man of learning, and a preacher; Joseph Pendrell; Bekman, the German; Holcroft, the novelist; Bloomfield, the poet; Lackington, who rose to such eminence as a bookseller in London; and Drew, the metaphysician, were all originally members of the "gentle craft" of shoe making.

(For the Zodiac.)

NOTES OF A PEDESTRIAN.

(Continued.)

In approaching the village of Kingston, from the north, the surrounding country gradually becomes more level in its appearance, until you reach the plain upon which it is situated, and which is composed principally of marly clay and gravel, overlayed by the yellow sand. The village presents quite an aged aspect, rendered so in a great mea-

sure by the number of ancient buildings of stone which it yet contains, and more particularly by the sad looking ruins of the venerable edifice which for such a great length of time, had been appropriated as a sanctuary of worship by the fathers of the present generation of its neighboring inhabitants; but here I regret that I am constrained to add, by a barbarity wholly unworthy the enlightened age in which we live, this remnant of American antiquity has been reduced to its present forlorn condition, merely to give place to a more modern structure without architectural chasteness, and alike destitute of either taste or comeliness,—the hands of the law, I think, should always be stretched out for the protection of these land-marks of other days. A short distance below the village, in a direction towards the east, the road is crossed by one of those irregularly elevated ridges of limestone, whose proper geological position is in the lower portion of the great carboniferous series, and but an inconsiderable distance above that part in which is generally situated the stratum from whence the celebrated hydraulic cement is obtained; after passing this ridge the road rapidly descends successively through the sand, gravel and marly clay, down to the grauwacke rocks which yield them a support, and which are plainly discernable along the shores of the Hudson river.

In proceeding along the shore from Kingston landing towards the entrance of the Hudson and Delaware canal, the grauwacke was in several instances finely exhibited to view, having been recently blasted for the various useful purposes to which it is employed. After proceeding a short distance, I observed the erection of a building which, from its peculiar structure, I should most readily conclude was intended for the manufacturing of Pyroligneous acid or vinegar; but the individuals whom I saw at the place seemed to exercise no small degree of mystery on the occasion of my visit; a circumstance totally unnecessary, as all the improvements on those subjects up to a very recent date have been divulged, and the processes by which they may be obtained made known to the public through the avenues of various scientific journals from abroad, as well as in the pages of some of our own. Both being prepared by the labor of but a few hours, the first by the distillation of wood, and the latter from the exposure of one or two parts of alcohol and eight or nine of water to the influence of the atmosphere at a certain degree of temperature, in such a manner as to cause them speedily to oxidize. A short distance beyond I remarked a lime-kiln, situated at the base of the hill which forms the western shore of the stream, from whence I was informed the limestone had been procured to keep it in employ, but the night proved so dark that I was unable to give it a proper examination, consequently its peculiar nature could not with any degree of accuracy be determined; little doubt however may be entertained but that it will prove a continuation of the ridge previously mentioned as crossing the road immediately after leaving the village of Kingston, the general course of the hill appearing to preserve the same general bearing. The Hudson and Delaware canal has its eastern termination in the Rondout creek, about three miles from Kingston, at a place called Eddyville, formerly known as the Esopus strand, from whence a small steamer plys almost constantly to the landing below, for the purpose of towing the boats freighted with the company's coal to that place, ninety-five thousand tons of which I am informed it is their calculation to receive previous to the ordinary period for the navigation of the river to cease. Large quantities of lumber and cord wood are also yearly borne on the waters of this canal, intended chiefly for the market of New-York, and independent of coal crafts, about twenty-five sloops are kept continuously in employ for transporting the various products from the Rondout creek, to that city. The number of boats kept in active employment on the canal amounts in all to nearly four hundred.

To the east of Eddyville arises a rough and irregular hill of some considerable eminence, constituted entirely of the grauwacke slate, its ragged edges projecting here and there through the thin soil that covers them, whilst the hills in the opposite direction exhibit thicker layers of the coarse variety, denoting the superior strata of the same formation, these last are in some places covered by small patches of the overlaying carboniferous limestones; the intervening old red sand-stone being concealed from the sight. Where these two rocks approach each other, there appears to be a great deal of confusion existing amongst them, being twisted and contorted in a surprising manner, so much so that it is with the utmost difficulty that an observer can be able to define their boundaries—to tell where the one terminates and the other commences; however, this is most generally the case where the strata of two distinct series approximate. In fact there are no small doubts existing in my mind, whether or not the hill previously spoken of to the east, might not with more propriety be placed among the lowest grauwacks of the group of that name rather than with those above, for the resemblance to each other is so great, that unless you actually see them passing immediately beneath the respective strata, which always occupy the superior situations, it is next to an impossibility to speak with any great degree of certainty respecting them. But these doubts must remain unmoved, until some more favorable opportunity occurs to investigate them with greater exactness.

In pursuing the course of the canal for about five miles, the grauwacke shales are occasionally to be seen emerging from the beneath the marly clay, gravel and sand, which appear to have slidden down over them in heavy masses, and in such a manner as to render them unseen, excepting at the various intervals were they occur; but at the lock number six, a distance of about four miles from the strand, the shales composed of thick and thin layers, are most beautifully displayed, both in the bed of the Rondout creek, where it forms a gentle rapid, and also in the adjoining hill, or cliff: they here seem to have a slight inclination towards the east. From Eddyville along the eastern shore of the stream, the hills gradually recede in a direction towards the south, and no more approach the canal. A short distance farther the limestones begin to present themselves in elevated ranges, and at the village of Rosendale, six miles from the termination of the canal, and also in its immediate vicinity, they form nearly perpendicular precipices, which judging from computation are over a hundred feet in height, rough and craggy in appearance, and yielding excellent lime in many places by calcination. A mile or two beyond this are to be observed a number of remarkably well constructed kilns, erected for the purpose of calcining the rocks, in order to procure the hydraulic cement, and also a substantial stone mill for reducing it to powder. It is here obtained as it is every where else in the state in any great degree of purity, from the lower strata of the true carboniferous series of limestones: its qualities are excellent, and what is of more consequence, is that it may be procured in almost any quantities. From the facilities furnished for conveying it to the New-York market, I should sincerely think the establishment one of great consideration, and of no inconsiderable profit to its enterprising proprietor. It is at this place that the upper layers of the grauwacke make their appearance, forming the irregular floor of the stream, and also emerging from beneath the hill, which embraces the cement rock, the old red sand-stones not being visible in consequence of the quantity of debris by which they are concealed. The superior strata of these grauwackes, here exhibit themselves in the form of a coarse conglomerate, of a slightly reddish tinge, and whose proper elevation seems to be in a direction towards the south, but a great deal of confusion appears to exist, therefore it becomes a very difficult thing, with any degree of certainty, to determine their dip. However, at the Great Falls, as they are termed, situated about ten miles from Eddyville, a most admirable opportunity presents itself for inspecting these three series of rocks, immediately in connection with each other. The upper, and by far the principal portion of the cliff, which constitutes the northern shore of the stream, belongs to the carboniferous limestone series, and are based directly upon those of the old red stand-stone: displaying one or more alternations at their place of contact. These last again repose immediately upon the superior strata of the grauwacke slate, the latter forming the rockey bed of the creek, and then bending upwards, swell out and constitute the tops, or uppermost layers of the Shawangunk ridge, which appear to have its commencement at this place. As the salt waters of Salina and the Gypsum beds of the western part of the state of N. York, have always been found situated at the juncture of these limestones with the old red sand-stones, upon which they repose, I think it would be highly advisable for the inhabitants of the vicinity, to examine this position minutely, for couldthey here be discovered, the advantages, and numerous facilities which the place affords, would amply remunerate them for the slight degree of labor and expense, which a proper investigation would require. It is here also, that the water privileges which the stream presents, are remarkably fine; but they still remain, it may with propriety be said, in an unimproved state, giving origin only as yet, to two woollen manufactories, a tannery, and some few mills.

After leaving the high falls, and pursuing a direction towards the west, parallel to the course of the canal, and, on ascending the hill directly over them, the old red sand-stones are to be perceived making their appearance from beneath its bed, and also along the banks; but on the opposite side and rising gently to the south, the superior strata, or grits, of the grauwacke shales regularly swell out from under the sand-stones, until they attain an eminence of no inconsiderable height; it is from these layers that the celebrated mill-stones of the county of Ulster are obtained, and, in many places, as I went along, I witnessed the workmen busily employed in giving to them their appropriate forms. It was also, skirting the shores of the Rondout creek, at this place, that I first beheld that highly ornamental evergreen shrub, the American Rose-bay, (Rhododendron maximum of Linnæus,) abounding in the greatest profusion; it was not in flower, for its season of bloom is in the earlier parts of summer, however, the beauty of its foliage will always render it an object of delight to the discriminating eye of taste, and should justly entitle it, at

all times, to a conspicuous situation in the gardens of such as take enjoyment in cultivating the vegetable portion of nature's productions. The stream here yields but few of the fresh water shells, so peculiarly characteristic of many others of the kind in this section of the country, only two species of them could I anywhere discover, upon a diligent search along its muddy shores, and those were remarkably scarce, they proved to be the Unio Careosus, and the Anadonta marginata of Say: but the beautiful little painted tortoise (Testudo picta, of Le Conte,) were extremely common, basking in the sunbeams, on the flat surface of stones and logs, which, when approached, dropped suddenly into the water, and soon concealed themselves from the sight. It has been stated by some naturalist, who has given an excellent description of this animal, that they inhabit only ponds, and never running streams; here is exhibited a positive proof to the contrary, and if any more were necessary, the Hudson river and nearly all its tributaries might easily be cited.

[We are indebted to a gentleman in Paris for the following items.]

The beet root sugar refining has of late taken a prodigious extension, in France. In 1828, there were only fifty-eight factories in the whole country, and now their number exceeds four hundred. In less than seven years the produce of that article increased from 8,200,000 pounds weight to 50,000,000, and the value of that branch of industry averaged in 1835, upwards of 40,000,000 of francs, ($10,000,000.) It is particularly confined to the northern provinces of the kingdom. In the department of the north there are one hundred and forty-seven refineries of beet root sugar in full operation; in that of the Pas de Calais, seven-four; in the Somme, thirty-eight; and in the Aisne, twenty-seven.

The steam-engines have also multiplied amazingly since the peace. In 1816, their number was extremely limited. The first one was introduced in France, in 1749, and employed to extract the coal of the mines of Letry, in Calvados. In 1830, fifty-nine new engines were set up; in 1831, sixty; in 1832, seventy-nine; and in 1833, one hundred and thirty. At the close of the last year there were in France, 946 steam-engines; 542 steam boilers; and 75 steam-boats, independently of the government vessels. The number of passengers conveyed by the latter was 1,038,916, and the quantity of goods 381,400 quintals.

The year 1835 has been fruitful in dramatic productions. The number of new plays brought out in Paris, amounting to 221, composed by 183 authors. They were performed at the following theatres, viz: 1, Royal Academy of Music, 3, (one opera and two ballets pantomines); 2, French Theatre, 10, (four dramas and six comedies); 3, Comical Opera, 9; 4, Italian Theatre, 3; 5, Gymnase, 16; 6, Vaudeville, 17; 7, Variétés, 26; 8, Palais Royal, 28; 9, Gaité, 8; 10, Ambigu Comique, 19; 11, Porte St. Martin, 11; 12, Cirque Olympique, 16; 13, Folies Dramatiques, 9; 14, Choiseuil, 14; 15, Pantheon, 17; 16, St. Antoine, 5.—In all 221.

[From Chambers' Edinburgh Journal.]

SIGNIFICATIONS.

There is a considerable number of words, which, though they may have one distinct dictionary signification, are employed in many various and even opposite senses, in accordance with the habits of feeling and thinking of those who use them. Virtue was, among the ancient Romans, bravery; among the modern, it is a taste for pictures; in Johnson's great register of the English language, it is moral efficacy. These meanings appear very contradictory; but the mystery is explained when we reflect, that, among the ancient Romans, bravery, among the modern Romans, a taste for pictures, and, among the British people, moral efficacy, was and is respectively estimated as the most useful and ennobling of qualities. The general aim of the word has at all times been the same; only the specific objects at which it has been directed are different. The phrase, "a good man," unless used very emphatically, and with some illustrative aid from the context of the conversation, is scarcely ever understood to imply goodness; commercial people accept it as an assurance that the individual to whom it is applied can pay twenty shillings in the pound. If, instead of man, the word fellow be used, men of pleasure understand the phrase to mean that the individual is careless, happy, and dissolute. In the same way, "to live well" means, among pious people, to live in the practice of frequent devotion; among people of the world, to eat and drink all the good things possible. "Honest-like" in Scotland implies a certain degree of personal bulk; "wise-like," a certain elegance and suhstantiality of attire; while honest and wise, in that country, have the same significations as in others.

Good is often used in a depreciatory sense. "My good sir, you are quite wrong," is what we are apt to say when our friend utters any thing that we think reflects little credit on his understanding. The good woman did this, and the good man said that, are used when we describe any saying or doing which has betrayed ignorance of the ways of the world. This is akin to the epithet applied by the French courtiers of the fifteenth century to individuals of the peasantry—*Jacques Bonhomme*, James Good-man. When these same Jacques Bonhommes rose upon their superiors and commenced the bloody servile wars which made that period so memorable, this epithet of contemptuous pity for their ignorance and gentleness was still continued—the wars themselves being styled the wars of the Jacquerie. The anomaly of a so-called good man acting as the murderer of his master must have then been found in every cottage throughout a large part of France.

Upon the whole, judging the matter in a merely worldly point of view, the epithet good is not very desirable. It may have a favorable sense, and assuredly it is the duty of all to act in such a manner as to deserve its most rational and serious application. But in the business of the world, there is a necessity for the exercise of so many smart and vigorous qualities, incompatible with, or at least apart from, the soft and easy nature of goodness, such as the power of repelling injury and insult, prosecuting legitimate interests, and meeting and overcoming difficulties, that the epithet is apt to imply such a character as men of the world hold in little respect.

The truth is, goodness depends very much on circumstances of time and place. In a time of siege he is the best man who can live on a handful of flour in the day, and is able to keep longest watch upon the walls. Among tradesmen, the first of the cardinal virtues is a habit of readily discharging accounts. With servants, he is the best master who gives least trouble; with masters, he is the best servant who is most easily kept in order. There is hardly any acknowledgment among mankind of an abstract standard of morals. Whatever society in its larger or smaller departments chances to hold of most account, as tending to its convenience or squaring with its prejudices, he is the best man who most carefully respects it in his mode of life, and the worst who disregards or violates it. It is possible to get the repute of being a bad member of society without infringing a single rule of the decalogue, and to infringe not a few of the said rules without becoming in the least degree less acceptable in the circles frequented by the particular parties. Honesty, often accompanied by very mean and obscure sentiments of abstract morality, is the guiding card of the well-disposed among the industrious orders: honor, often unattended by what is called honesty, is the favorite and totally different code of persons of a superior grade. There may even be a city morality and a country morality; a large town morality and a small town morality; a sea-port morality and an inland town morality; a county morality, a parish morality, and a hamlet morality. That is to say, a particular course of conduct may be required to gain the praise of being right and good in each of those particular districts. An author of the last century relates, that, being once on a visit at a large town in the north of England, he went in company with a friend to the public bowling-green, where he observed a very respectable looking man who was shunned by every body. "By accident," says our author, "entering into conversation with this gentleman, I found him polite, agreeable, and well informed. In my way home, I could not help taking notice of what I had observed, and inquired of my friend the cause of this gentleman being thus evidently disregarded. 'Cause enough,' answered he; 'that fellow is the greatest scoundrel on earth.' 'What has he done?' said I. 'Does he cheat? Is he a bad husband or father?' 'We don't trouble ourselves about his domestic affairs,' peevishly answered my friend; 'but, to do the fellow justice, I believe he is a good husband and father.' 'What, then? has he committed murder, or been guilty of treason?' 'No,' added my friend; 'we have nothing to do with his quarrels, and don't trouble our heads with his party; we have nothing to say against him on those subjects.' 'What, then, in the name of Fortune, can it be? Is he a blackleg or a usurer?' 'No, no,' replied my friend; 'no such thing; but, if you will have it, know, then, that good-looking plausible villain, in his own farm-yard, shot a fox big with young!' Recollecting that my friend and most of the gentlemen on the green were staunch fox-hunters, my wonder ceased."*

The same author afterwards remarks—"An *honest fellow* no longer ago than last week; cheated me confoundedly in a horse. On remonstrating with my cousin Justice Tankard, who had recommended the man to me, I learnt that with him an honest fellow meant only one who would not balk his glass, and could swallow six bottles of port at a sitting."

"Nor" he thus proceeds, "are the times of the day indicated by terms of more positive signification; but morning, noon, and evening, mean very differently from different persons, and in different places. I remember formerly, having received an appointment to wait on a noble lord the next morning; for want of a due consideration of his lordship's rank and amusements, I went at ten o'clock; but after knocking half an hour, was convinced by a slipshod footman that morning would not commence in that house till some hours after the sun had passed his meridian.

"On a similar appointment from a Welsh squire, I was at his door at eight, having been told he was an early man; but judge my surprise, when his servant informed me his master went out in the morning. On inquiry, I found morning in that house did not reach later than seven o'clock."

An honest country girl of the last century would have shrunk from the proposed introduction of "a nice man," supposing him to be some fastidious fop, unworthy of her attention. She would now gladly accede to the proposal, in the hope of meeting a person in every respect agreeable.

CHARACTER OF COLERIDGE,

BY PROFESSOR WILSON.

If there be any man of grand and original genius at this moment, in Europe, it is Coleridge: nothing can surpass the melodious richness of words which he heaps around his images—images which are not glaring in themselves, but which are always affecting to the very verge of tears, because they have all been formed and nourished in the recesses of one of the most deeply musing spirits that ever breathed forth its inspirations in the majestic language of England. Who that ever read Genevieve can doubt this? That poem is known to all readers of poetry, although comparatively few of them are aware that it is the work of Coleridge. His love-poetry is, throughout, the finest that has been produced in England since the days of Shakspeare and the old dramatists. The old dramatists and Coleridge, regard women with far higher reverence—far deeper insight into the true grandeur of their gentleness. I do not think there is any poet in the world who ever touched so truly the mystery of the passion, as he has done in Genevieve, and in that other exquisite poem where he speaks of—

"Her voice—
Her voice, that, even in its mirthful mood,
Hath made we wish to steal away and weep."

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* Grose's Olio, p. 13.

METEOROLOGICAL TABLE FOR FEBRUARY, 1836,

KEPT AT THE ALBANY ACADEMY.

Days Mo.	MORNING. Barom.	Attach. Therm.	Dew Point.	EVENING. Barom.	Attach. Therm.	Dew Point.	THERMOMETER. 6½ A.M	3 P. M.	9 P. M.	Mean.	WINDS. 8 A. M.	Noon.	10 P.M.	WEATHER. Morning.	Evening.	Rain Gauge.	REMARKS.
1	29.74	24°	None	29.83	20°	None	14	10	0	3.33	NW	NW	NW	Cloudy.	Clear.		
②	29.95	10	do	29.91	9	do	—14	0	2	—1.67	N	NW	NW.	Clear.	Clear.		
3	30.06	12	do	30.05	14	do	0	15	7	7.00	SSW	SW	SW	Cloudy.	Clear.		
4	30.24	12	do	30.28	11 50	do	— 2	8	0	0.17	NNW	NNW	NNW	Clear.	Clear.		
5	30.30	6	do	30.22	8	do	—13	3	0	—2.17	NNW	NW	NW	Clear.	Clear.		
6	30.35	8 25	do	30.40	12	do	— 6	20	4	6.50	NW	WNW	WNW	Clear.	Clear.		
7	30.435	8	do	30.37	13	9° 50	— 3	15	15	13.17	SE	SE	SE	Cloudy.	Cloudy.	2.00	Snow.
8	29.93	22	23°	29.68	28	29	22	32	28	28.00	NW	NW	NW	Cloudy.	Cloudy.		Snow.
◐	29.83	27	19	29.81	30	25	26	34	32	29.33	SW	WSW	NW	Cloudy.	Cloudy.		
10	30.15	31 50	16	30.26	31	15	18	31	25	24.67	W	NW	NW	Clear.	Clear.		
11	30.61	31	13	30.62	30	14	18	29	18	21.67	NW	NW	NW	Clear.	Clear.		
12	30.52	28	18	30.38	28	25	18	29	26	26.67	N	SW	SW	Cloudy.	Cloudy.	1.08	Snow.
13	30.06	32 25	29 50	30.00	34	27	32	35	23	27.83	SE	S	NW	Cloudy.	Cloudy.		Rain.
14	29.94	28	10	29.92	24	None	19	15	8	12.17	NW	NNW	NNW	Cloudy.	Cloudy.	0.20	Snow.
15	29.80	20	None	29.63	23	12	8	21	12	13.00	NE	SW	NW	Cloudy.	Cloudy.		
●	30.05	17 50	do	30.14	18 50	3	4	15	8	9.17	NNW	NW	NW	Clear.	Clear.		
17	30.17	17	4	30.26	18	4	5	11	2	2.50	NE	NE	NE	Cloudy.	Cloudy.		
18	30.51	8 25	None	30.48	11	None	—16	8	8	0.00	NE	NE	NE	Clear.	Clear.		
19	30.44	9	do	30.40	11	do	—16	18	12	9.67	NE	W	SW	Clear.	Clear.		
20	30.28	18	13	30.16	26	24	14	34	29	28.33	SE	SE	SE	Cloudy.	Cloudy.		
21	30.09	32	31	30.09	34	32	30	41	36	35.00	E	NE	N	Cloudy.	Cloudy.		
22	30.16	35 50	26 50	30.13	36	30 50	26	44	30	35.17	N	NE	NE	Clear.	Clear.		
23	30.15	33 50	29	30.09	38	30 50	37	43	38	39.33	NE	SW	SW	Cloudy.	Cloudy.		
◑	29.81	38 50	35 50	29.63	38 50	36	37	40	30	32.83	SW	SW	SE	Cloudy.	Cloudy.	0.20	Rain.
25	29.78	31	17 50	30.08	27 50	12	20	21	17	17.67	NW	NW	NW	Cloudy.	Clear.	0.88	Snow.
26	30.09	23	8	29.87	21	10	10	16	12	11.17	NE	NE	NE	Cloudy.	Cloudy.		Snow.
27	30.27	22	8 50	30.32	26	15	1	24	10	13.17	NNW	NW	NW	Clear.	Clear.		
28	30.69	23	5	30.70	15	None	10	22	5	9.00	NW	NW	NW	Clear.	Clear.		
29	30.57	10 50	None	30.25	22	18 50	—10	26	20	18.83	NNE	SW	SW	Cloudy.	Cloudy.	0.03	Slight snow.

RESULTS.

Mean of first half of the month,..... 13.97°
Mean of second half of the month,..... 18.70
Mean of the whole month, ... 16.32
Fair days, 13½; cloudy, 15½.
Rain on 1 day, snow on 7, and rain and snow on 1.
Rain Gauge, 4 inches and 39-100ths.
Warmest day, 23d; coldest day, 5th.
Highest deg. 44; lowest –16; monthly range 60.

Winds.—North 1½ day; north-east 5½; east ½; south-east 1½; south-west 5; west 2; north-west 13½. Prevailing wind, *north-west*. On the 24th, a severe gale, at night, with snow.

N. B. The winds are observed three times a day, by Professor TEN EYCK.

The observations of the Barometer, Attached Thermometer and Dew-Point, were taken in the morning between 9 and 10, and in the evening between 6 and 7 o'clock, by Mr. M. H. WEBSTER. The Dew-Point was found by Daniel's Hygrometer, which is only graduated as low as 3°. The word "None," indicates the occasions when no precipitation took place at that temperature. In finding the mean, the Dew-Point, has, at these times, been estimated at 2°, or when the temperature of the air was below zero, at 2° below the temperature of the air, although this will probably give a result a little higher than the true one.

Mean of Barometer, corrected for Capillarity, and reduced to 32°.

Morning,..... 30.243 inches.
Evening,..... 30.204 do.
Maximum of Barometer,..... 30.70 do.
Minimum, ... 29.63 do.
Monthly range,..... 1.07 do.
Mean of Dew-Point, morning,..... 11° 25
evening,..... 13° 27
Mean force of vapor, 0.108 inches.
Mean deg. of dryness, 7° 28 thermometric scale.
do. moisture, 0.782 nat. scale Hygrom.
Least degree of moisture observed, 0.556.

Weight of Vapor in a cubic foot.

Mean,..... 1.299 grains.
Maximum,..... 1.888 do.
Minimum,..... 0.896 grains.
Amount of evaporation, ... 0.870 inches.

On the 11th, at half past six P. M. very remarkble serrated clouds, consisting of alternate stripes of light and dark, were observed in the west, at right angles to the magnetic meridian, the remainder of the sky being clear; and at half past eight, a very brilliant aurora was seen through an opening in the clouds, the whole sky, excepting a broad belt at the north, in which the aurora appeared, being obscured.

A FATHER'S LAMENT.

BY JAMES HOGG.

A young friend of mine, whom I greatly admired for every manly and amiable virtue, was cut off suddenly in the flower of his age, (Mr. R——A———n.) The next time that I visited the family, his parent's distress and expressions of fond rememb.ance affected me so deeply, that I composed the following verses on his character. I likewise composed an air for it, which I thought adaptedto the words. It is finely set by Bishop, in his Select Meldoies.

How can you bid this heart be blithe,
When blithe this heart can never be?
I've lost the jewel from my crown—
Look round our circle, and you'll see
That there is ane out o' the ring
Who never can forgotten be—
Ay, there's a blank at my right hand,
That ne'er can be made up to me!

'Tis said, as water wears the rock,
That time wears out the deepest line;
It may be true wi' hearts enow,
But never can apply to mine.
For I have learn'd to know and feel—
Though losses should forgotten be—
That still the blank at my right hand,
Can never be made up to me!

I blame not Providence's sway,
For I have many joys beside,
And fain would I in grateful way
Enjoy the same, whate'er betide.
A mortal thing should ne'er repine,
But stoop to the Supreme decree;
Yet, oh! the blank at my right hand
Can never be made up to me!

☞TO THE LITERARY.

The proprietor of the Zodiac having thus far been sustained in his efforts, by an enlightened community, and having established his periodical on a footing which leaves him no further room to doubt its success, has resolved to invite the attention of the public to the following project. He will pay for the best Original Tale, founded on any portion of the History of this country, $100. For the best popular Essay on the best method of advancing the General Interests of the nation, $100. And for the best Poem, without limitation as to subject, not to contain less than 100 line, $50. A committee of literary gentlemen will decide on the claims of eace competitor. The MSS. to contain a reference to the author's real name, and to become the property of the proprietor, or to be returned at his option. Competitors for the above premiums will please send their communications, postage paid, by the first day of July next, in all which month the second volume will be commenced.

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